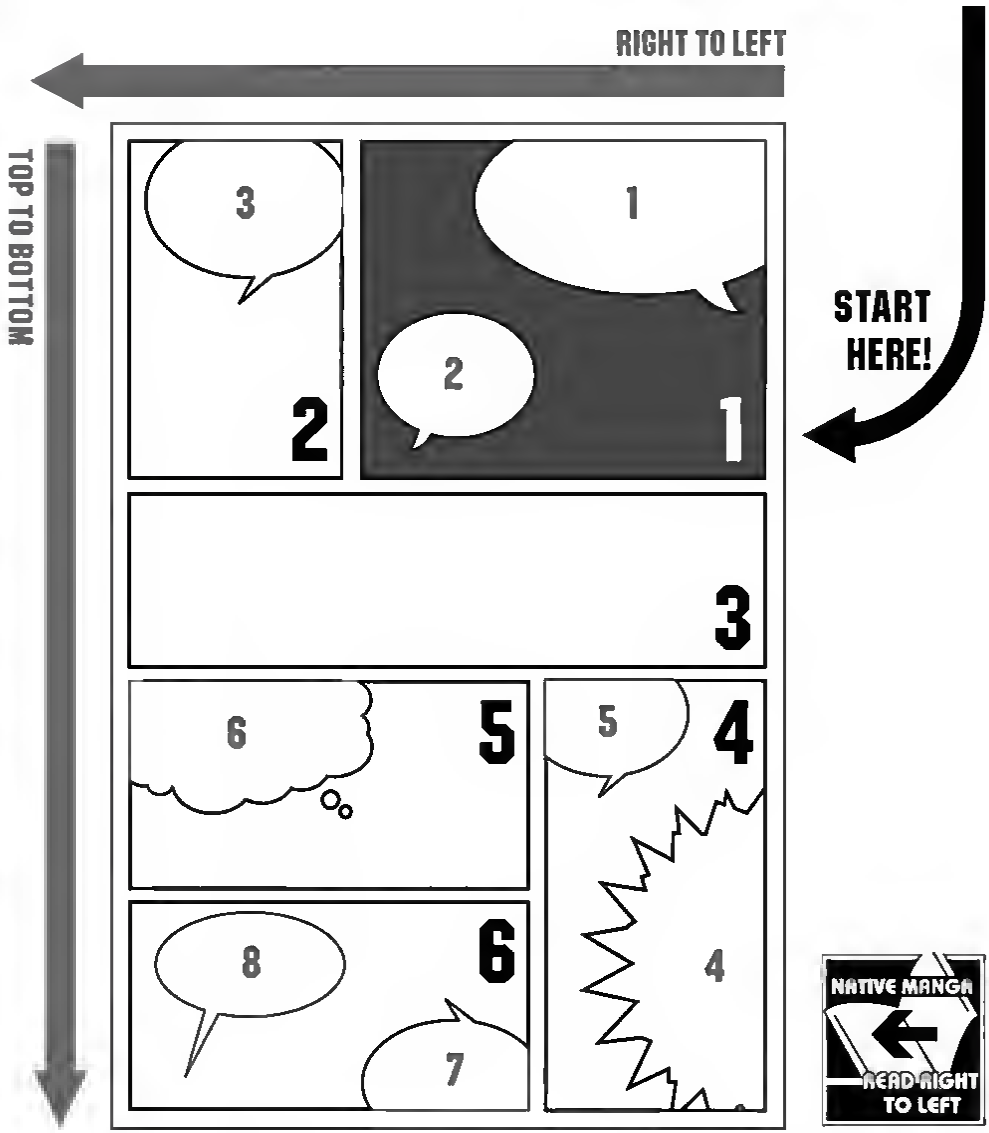
TAIMASHIN featuring FUJIWARA AKAMUSHI
KIKUCHI HIDEYUKI
SHIN YONG-GWAN
退魔針 紅虫魔殺行 4
原作 菊地秀行 作画 シン・ヨンカン
TAIMASHIN 4
The Red Spider Exorcist
Story by: KIKUCHI HIDEYUKI | Illustrated by: Shin Yong-Gwan
dmg
A Digital Manga Guild Publication

# THIS GRAPHIC NOVEL IS READ IN ITS NATIVE FORMAT

**READ EACH PANEL
FROM RIGHT TO LEFT, TOP TO BOTTOM
SEE HOW IT'S DONE BELOW!**



# 退魔針 TAIMASHIN featuring FUJIWARA AKAMUSHI

原作 菊地秀行 KIKUCHI HIDEYUKI

作画 シン・ヨンカン SHIN YONG-GWAN

# 紅虫魔殺行 4

# TAIMASHIN 4
## The Red Spider Exorcist

Digital Manga Guild presents

Story by: KIKUCHI HIDEYUKI | Illustrated by: Shin Yong-Gwan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www.digitalmangaguild.com

English Edition Published by
DIGITAL MANGA GUILD
A division of DIGITAL MANGA, Inc
1487 W 178th Street, Suite 300
Gardena, CA 90248



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First Edition April 2013
EISBN: 978-1-61313-423-6



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18, AKAMUSHI'S AMUSEMENT
十八、紅虫の遊戯

WHY?
WHY?
WHAT IS HE DOING HERE AT SCHOOL?!!

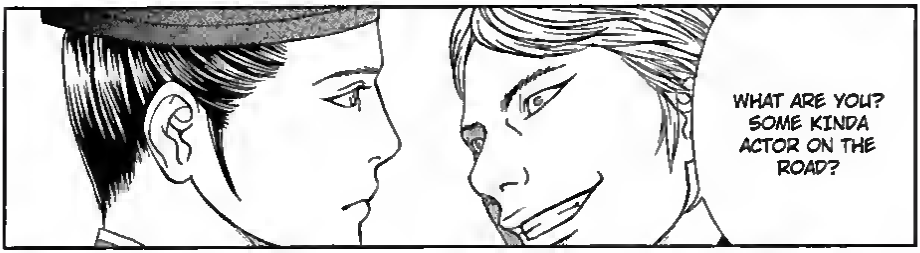
YOW!
WHACK

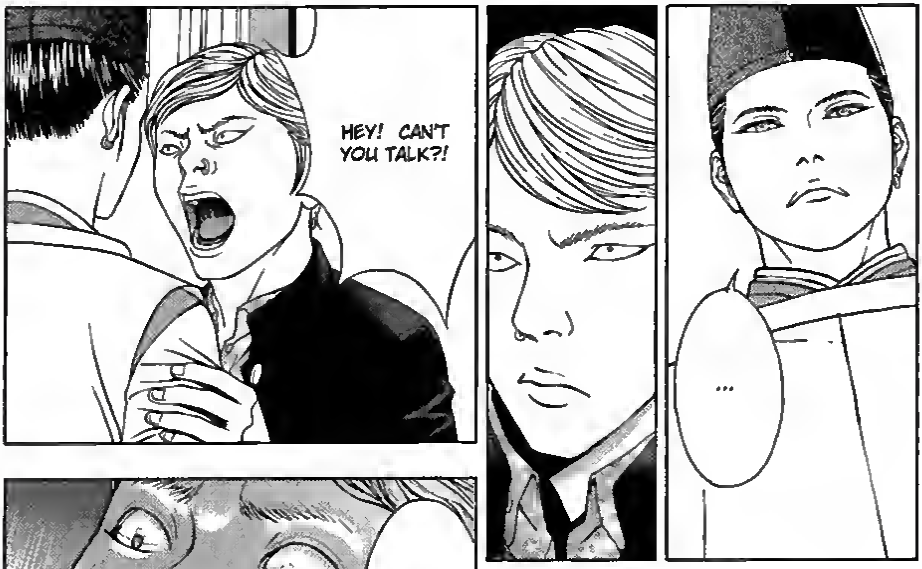
CRASH
CRACK

AND ALSO--

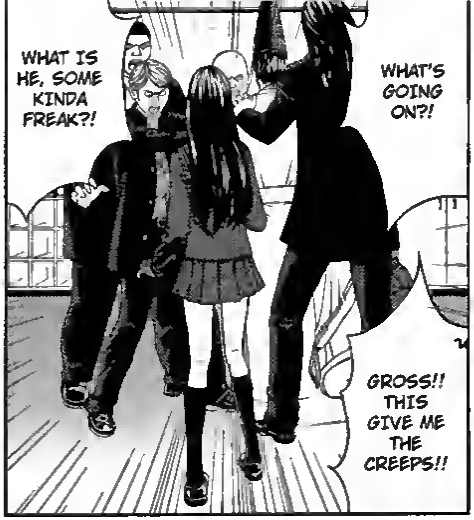
IT DIDN'T TAKE US LONG TO GET INTO THIS KIND OF MESS...!
SHFF
SHFF
K-KUROIDO, HELP... I CAN'T GET HIS HAND OFF...
YOU MUST REALLY THINK YOU'RE HOT STUFF!
HEY BUDDY! THAT'S ONE FUNNY OUTFIT.

...
HEY! LET GO OFF HIM.

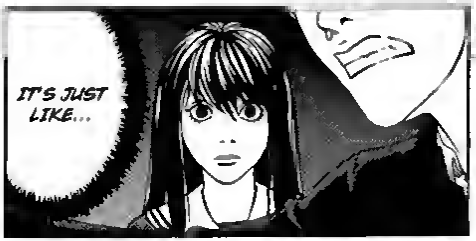

WHAT ARE YOU? SOME KINDA ACTOR ON THE ROAD?


HEY! CAN'T YOU TALK?!
...
AH...

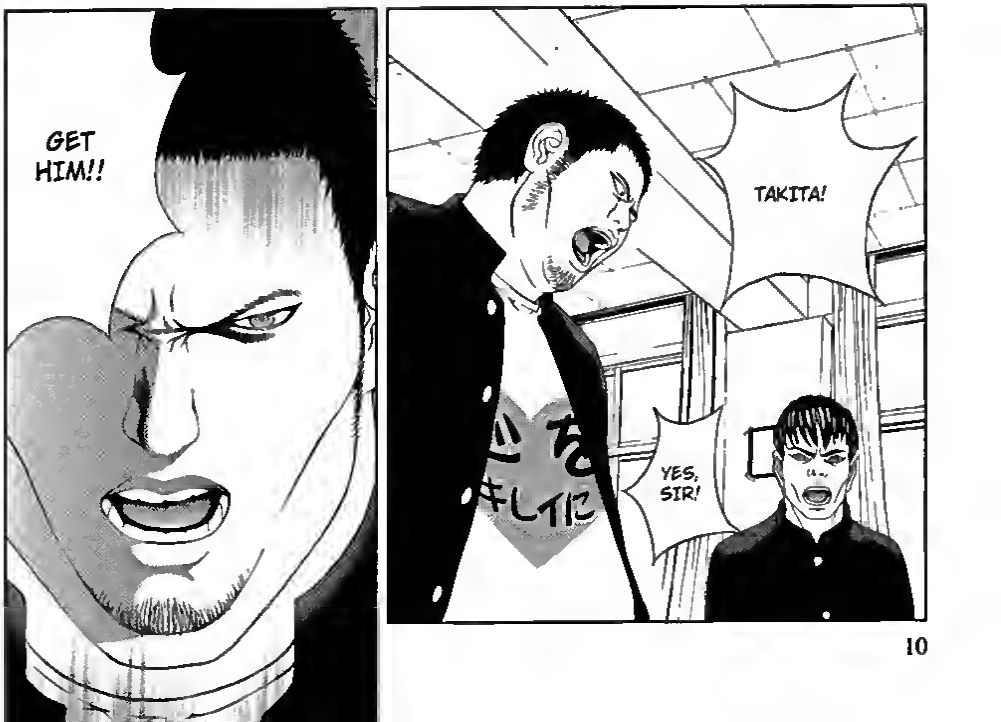
WHAT'S WITH YOU?!
I-I CAN'T TAKE MY HAND OFF HIM!! H-HELP ME WITH IT!!
AHHHHH?!
HUHH?! WHAT'RE YOU TALKIN' ABOUT?!
THAT'S SO STUPID, IT'S...
AUGHH!! WHAT THE?! I CAN'T EITHER!!


WHAT IS HE, SOME KINDA FREAK?!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
GROSS!! THIS GIVE ME THE CREEPS!!

MY HAND'S STUCK!!


IT'S JUST LIKE...

AM I GONNA GET EATEN?!
WH-WH-WH-WHAT IS THIS?!
AM...


GET HIM!!
TAKITA!
YES, SIR!

SHAKE
?
HA!!
FWOOMP
THAT TECHNIQUE HE LEARNED FROM A REAL QIGONG MASTER IN THE BACKWOODS OF CHINA...
IT'S TAKITA'S QI FIST!

WHAT'S THAT ALL ABOUT?
AKAMUSHI, BE CAREFUL!!
I HEARD HE BEAT UP TWENTY GANG MEMBERS FROM KURETA HIGH SCHOOL IN THREE SECONDS FLAT... THEY WERE ARMED WITH CHAINS AND BRASS KNUCKLES AND HE WAS UNARMED...

AUGH-
HHH!
CLACK
CLACK
REALLY.

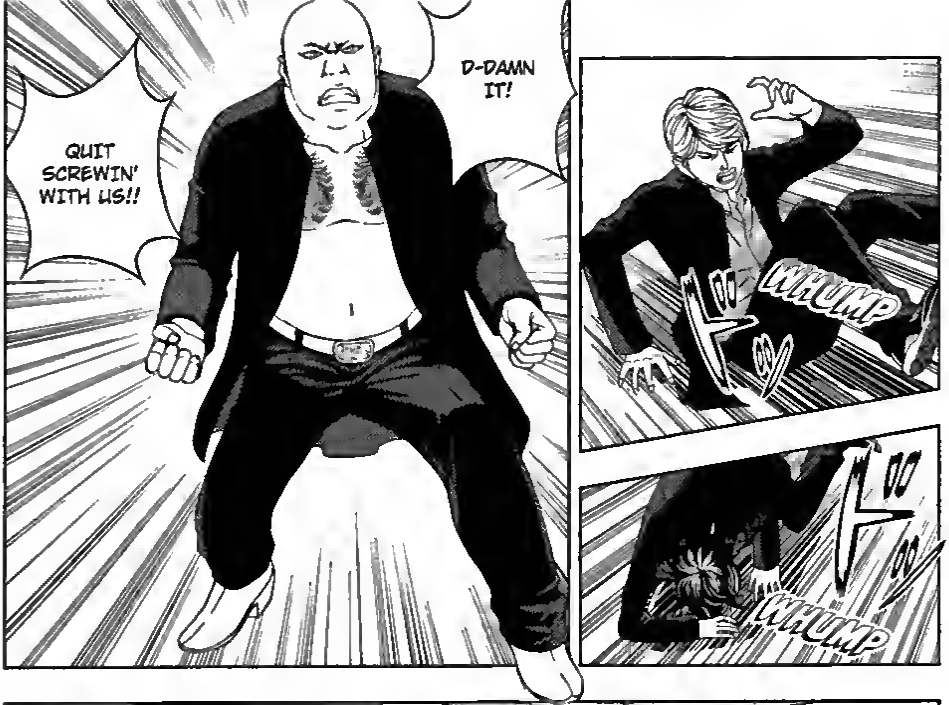
WHAM
NEVER MIND, TAKITA!!
I DON'T NEED YOUR PHONY DANCE.

I'LL TAKE HIM ON WITH THIS.
WHEN MY REAL KARATE HITS, IT BREAKS BONES AND CRUSHES FLESH.
IT'S TOO LATE. THIS COSPLAY CREEP'S GONE AND INSULTED US!
TIME TO TEACH HIM HOW DANGEROUS TODAY'S HIGH SCHOOLERS CAN BE!
DON'T DO IT, KUROIDOOO!!
WAIT A MINUTE!
DON'T DO IT, KUROIDO! IF YOU GUYS START A FIGHT, I'LL GET EXPELLED TOO!

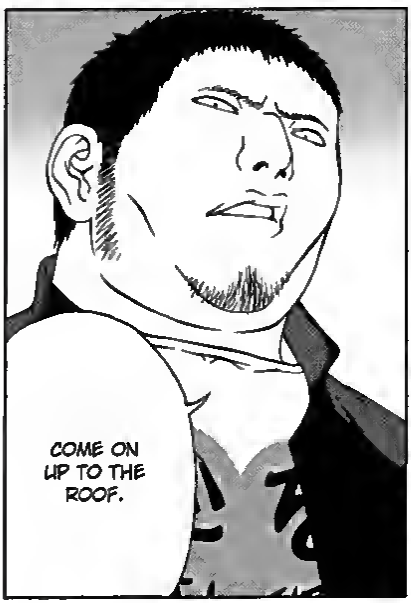
WHY'D YOU COME TO MY SCHOOL?!
DON'T GET INVOLVED WITH PEOPLE LIKE THESE!!
STOP...
AKAMUSHI, PLEASE STOP...
"PEOPLE LIKE THESE"?!
...
GRSH
WHAT...? ARE YOU GOING TO KILL ME?
CHFF
WHAT'D YOU SAY?!

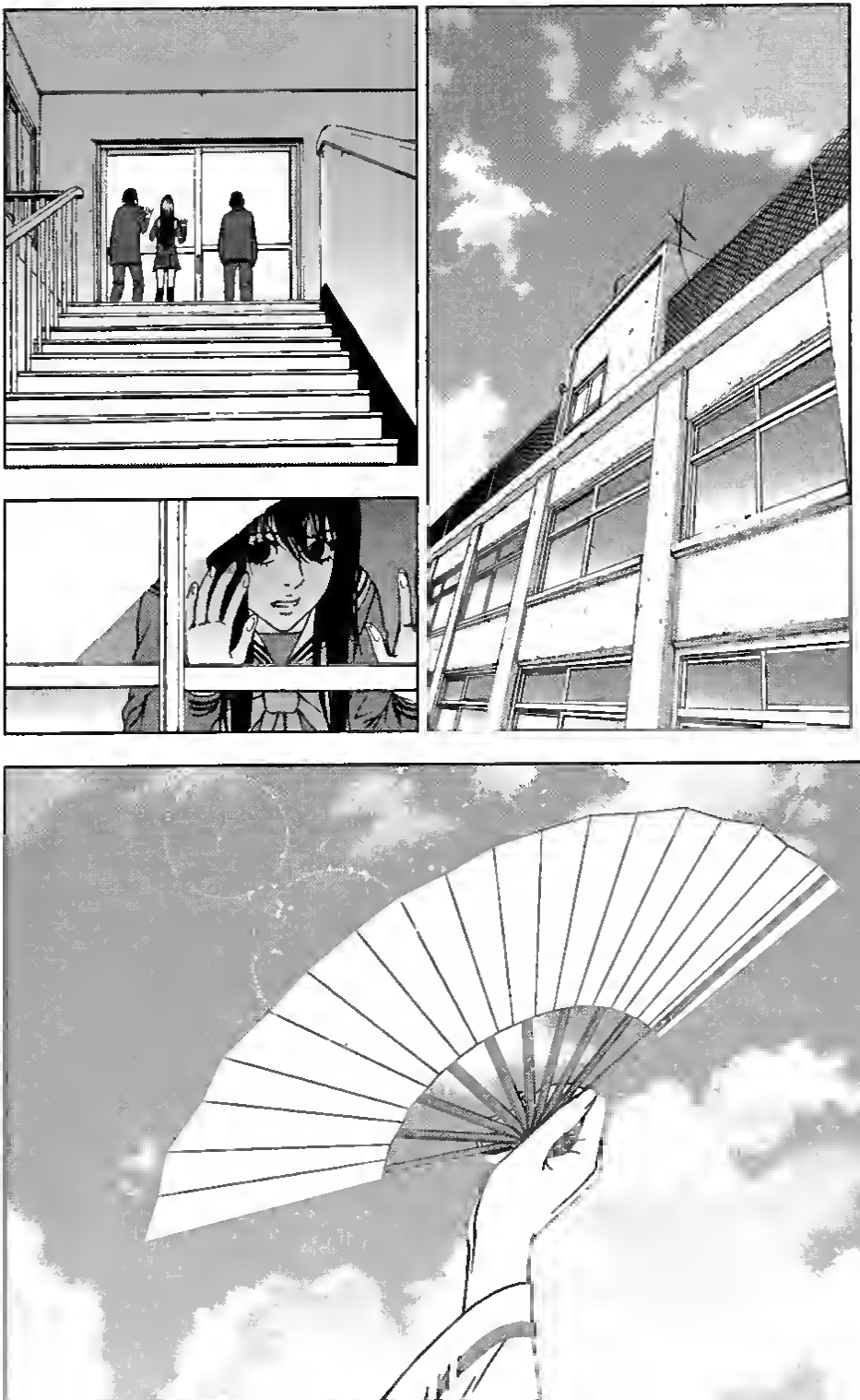
I'LL DEAL WITH YOU LATER, GIRLY.
ゴゴゴ
RMMMBLE
ARE YOU AFRAID OF ME?
EEP!
I SAID "EEP!"... WHY'D I MAKE A SOUND LIKE THAT?

YOUR SORRY ASS'D BE IN THE AFTERLIFE IN A SECOND, IF I WANTED IT THERE!!
WHAM
WHAT'S TO BE AFRAID OF, JERK-OFF?!
WH-WH-WH-WH-WH-
PERHAPS WE MIGHT GO THERE TOGETHER.
FLING
WHOOOA!
AFTERLIFE, EH? INTER-ESTING.


D-DAMN IT!
QUIT SCREWIN' WITH US!!
WHUMP
WHUMP

BING BONG BANG BONG


COME ON UP TO THE ROOF.



...
WE MIGHT AS WELL GET STARTED.

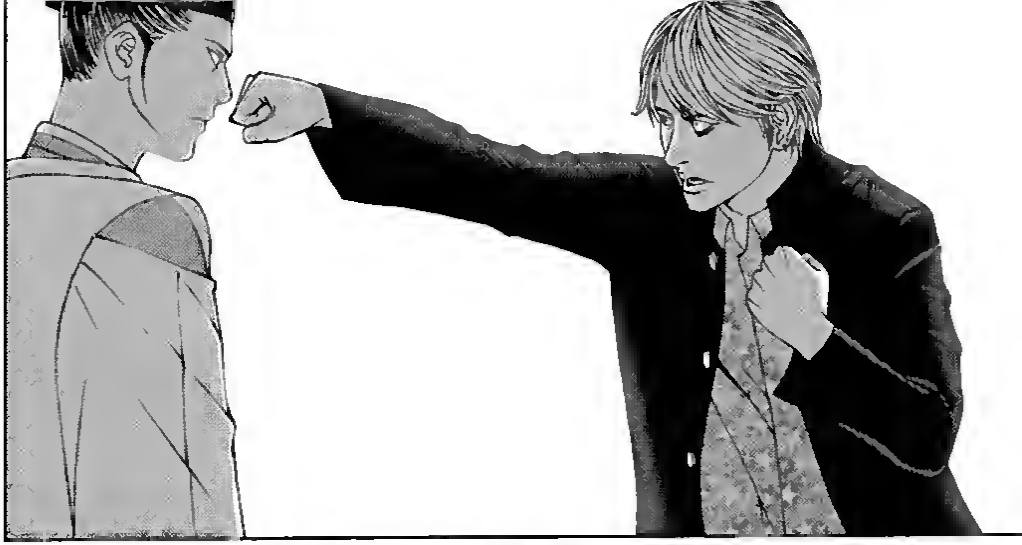
SHMM
SHMM
FWP
"BAWXIN"?! HE MUST BE TALKIN' ABOUT THE BOXING YOU'RE SO GOOD AT!!
THAT LOOKS LIKE BAWXIN'.
QUICK, HUH?

I MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT I'VE SPENT MUCH TIME ABROAD. THAT WAS HOW THEY PRONOUNCE IT IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH.
BAWXIN'? TRY SAYIN' THAT AGAIN!
OHH, IS THAT SO!!
SHOWING OFF SEEMS TO BE A HABIT OF YOURS.
WHOM

...HE'S RIGHT! BUT IF I PULL BACK A CENTIMETER THEN PUNCH, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE DOWN EVEN A SUMO WRESTLER!
YOU EXTEND YOUR ARM WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT, THEN YOU CAN USE IT TO PUNCH ME?
CAN THIS GUY... READ MY MIND?!
NO, I CAN'T. BUT I CAN IMAGINE.
IF YOU PULL BACK A CENTIMETER THEN PUNCH, YOU CAN K.O. ME. ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU'RE THINKING?

IT'S THE WAYS YOUR EYES MOVE, YOUR EYEBROWS KNIT, YOUR CHEEKS TWITCH...
THE WAY YOUR NOSTRILS FLARE.
OH MY. YOU COULD EVEN DEFEAT A SUMO WRESTLER.

RAGHHHH!
SHOW



DID HE DODGE MY STRAIGHT AT THAT RANGE?! NO WAY...!!

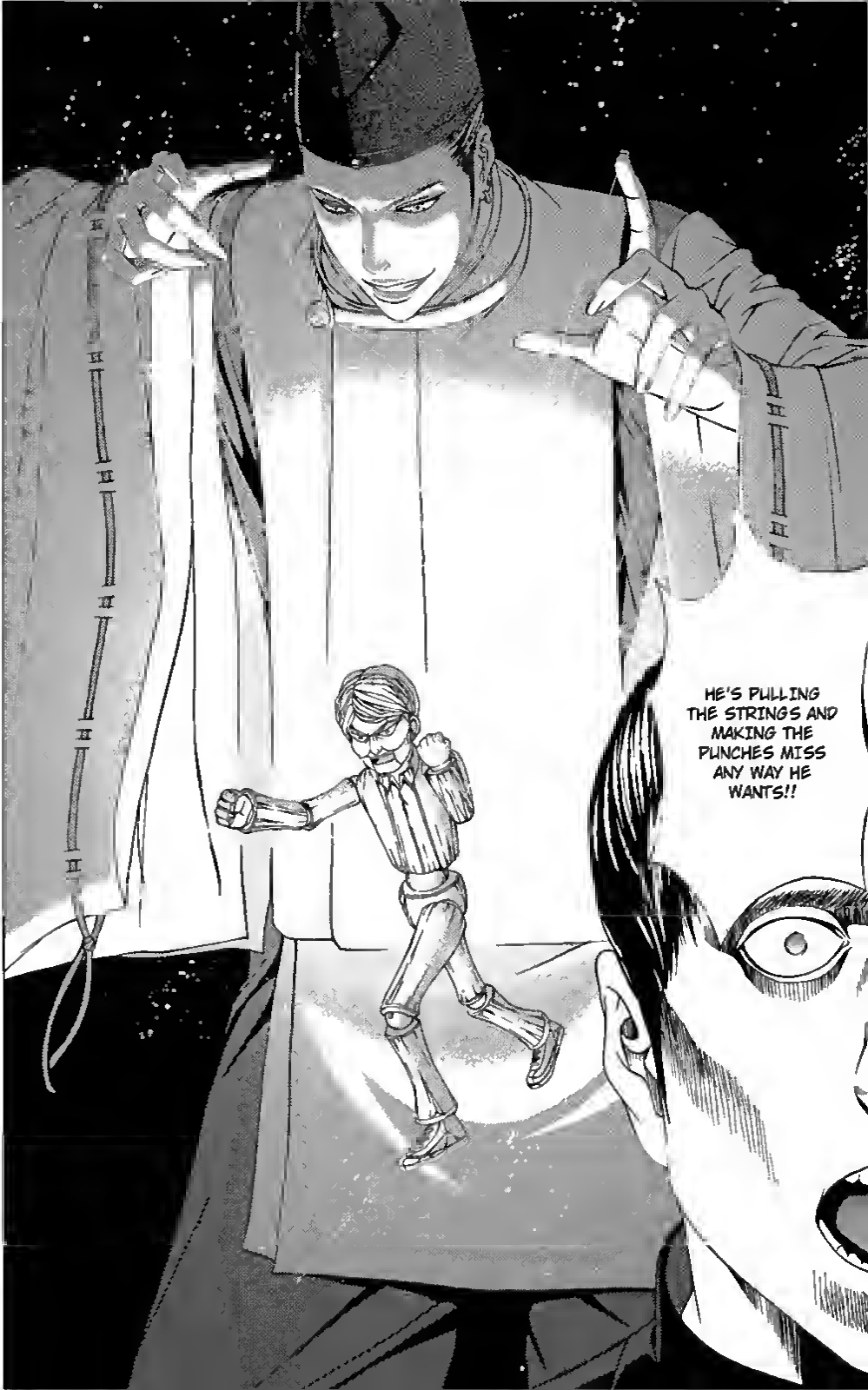
WHOM
ゴオ

WHOM
WHOM
WHOM
WHOM
WHAT DID YOU DO?!
WHY AREN'T I HITTING YOU?!

THEY RE
STRINGS!!

LIKE A MARIONETTE...!

!!


HE'S PULLING THE STRINGS AND MAKING THE PUNCHES MISS ANY WAY HE WANTS!!

WAIT... WHERE ARE THOSE STRINGS CONNECTED TO?!
IT COULDN'T BE...
THE CLOUDS?!

IT'D BE NO PROBLEM AT ALL, IF THERE WAS A RED SPIDER CONCEALED IN THE SEA OF CLOUDS.

TN:THERE'S A WONDERFUL PUN HERE THAT DOESN'T TRANSLATE. DIFFERENT KANJI ARE USED, BUT "KUMO" CAN MEAN EITHER "CLOUD" OR "SPIDER".

19, DAYDREAM
十九、白日夢

THE CLOUDS ?!
IT COULDN'T BE...

IT'D BE NO PROBLEM AT ALL, IF THERE WAS A RED SPIDER CONCEALED IN THE SEA OF CLOUDS.

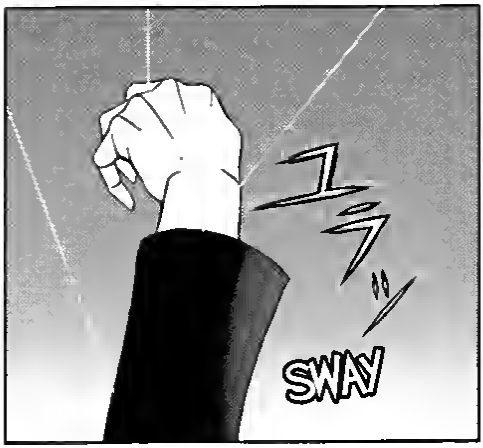
YOU SON OF A BITCH!!
YOINK

MISS

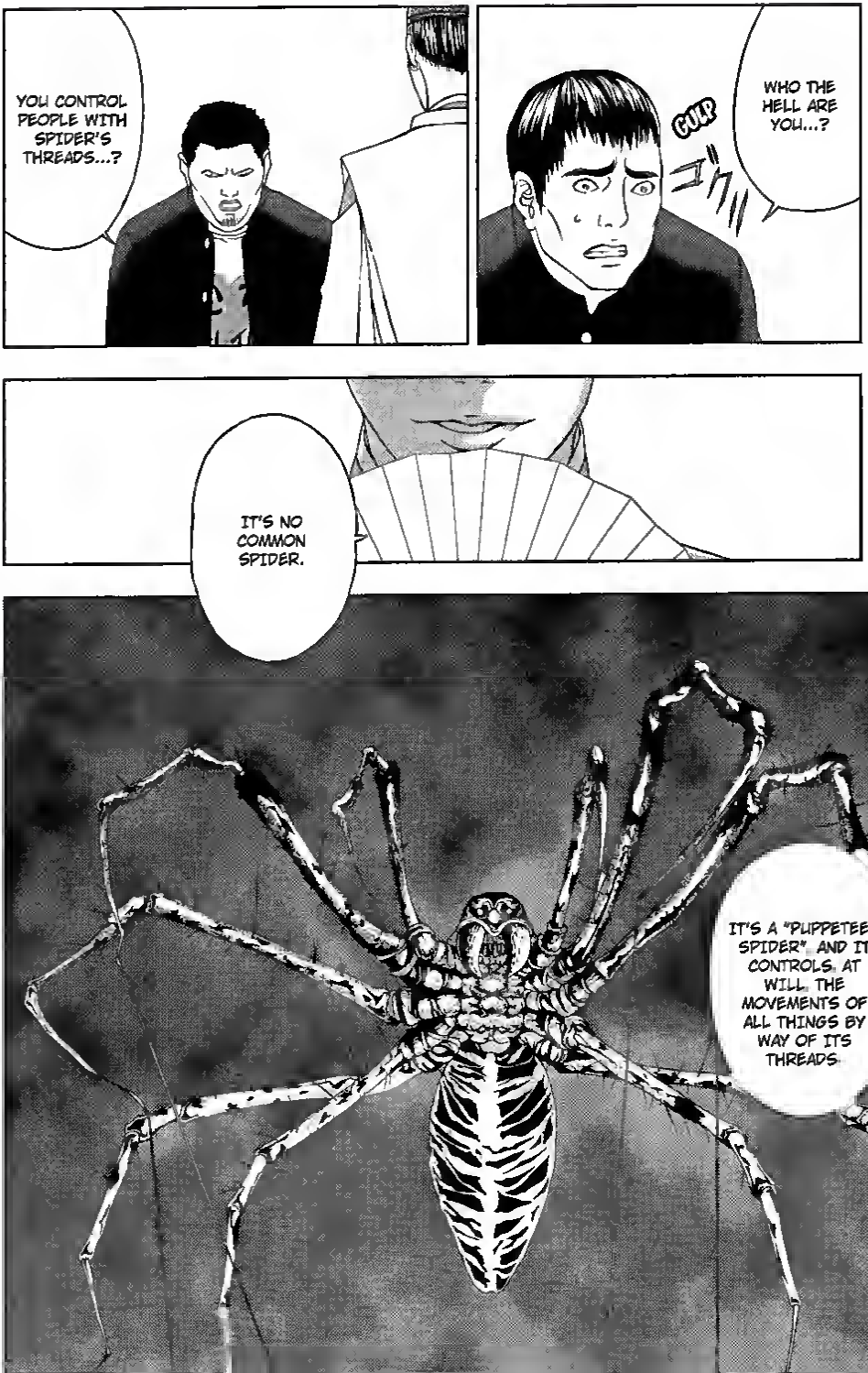
DAMN IT!!

D...

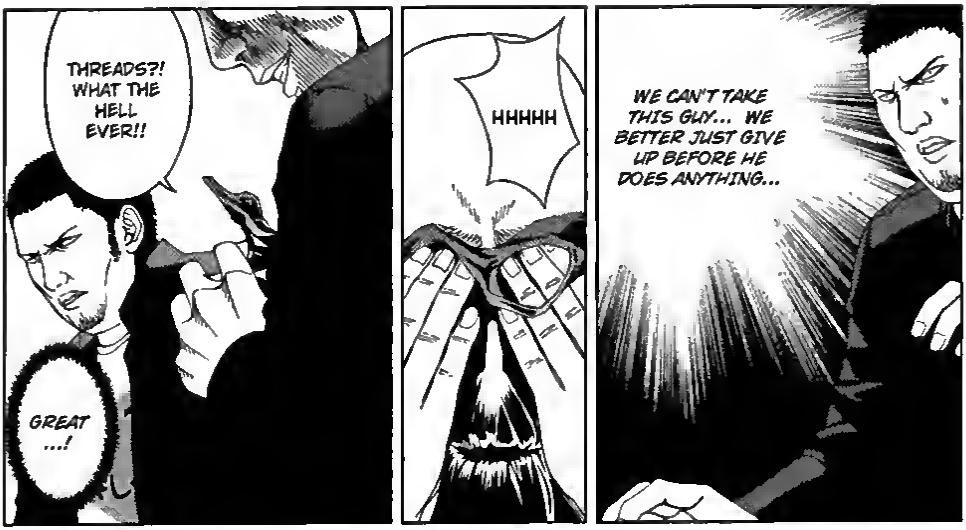
WHOCK
STAGGER
GWLIH...

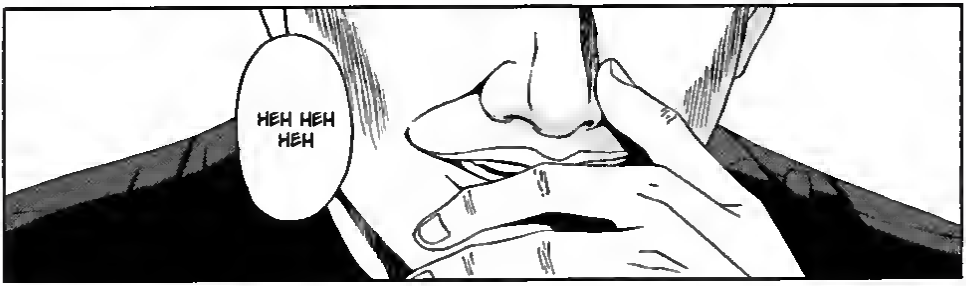

SWAY

THUD
M-MARIO-
NETTE...


YOU CONTROL PEOPLE WITH SPIDER'S THREADS...?
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU...?
GULP
ゴクリ
IT'S NO COMMON SPIDER.
IT'S A "PUPPETEER SPIDER", AND IT CONTROLS, AT WILL, THE MOVEMENTS OF ALL THINGS BY WAY OF ITS THREADS.

Y-YEAH... I'VE BEEN ABSENT TOO MANY DAYS...
I'VE GOT TO MAKE IT TO SECOND PERIOD PHYSICS CLASS...
UGH...
KARATE; BAWXIN'. AREN'T YOU GOING TO SHOW ME ANYTHING ELSE?
THEN WHY DON'T I SHOULD YOU SOMETHING NICE?


THREADS?! WHAT THE HELL EVER!!
GREAT ...!
HHHHH
WE CAN'T TAKE THIS GUY... WE BETTER JUST GIVE UP BEFORE HE DOES ANYTHING...

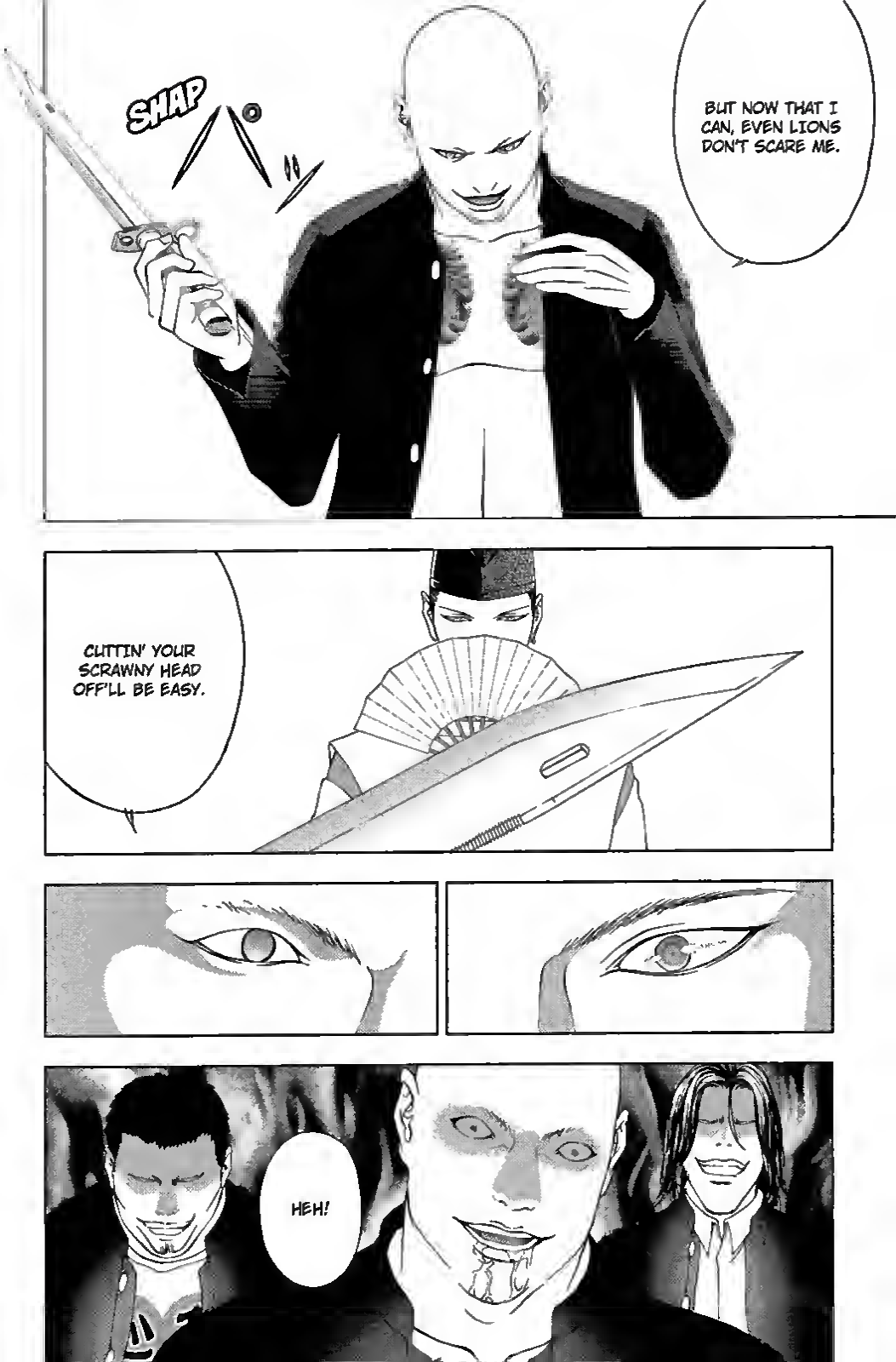

HEH HEH HEH

SHKT

AKAMUSHI'S THE NAME, RIGHT? I MIGHT AS WELL HAVE A GO, TOO.

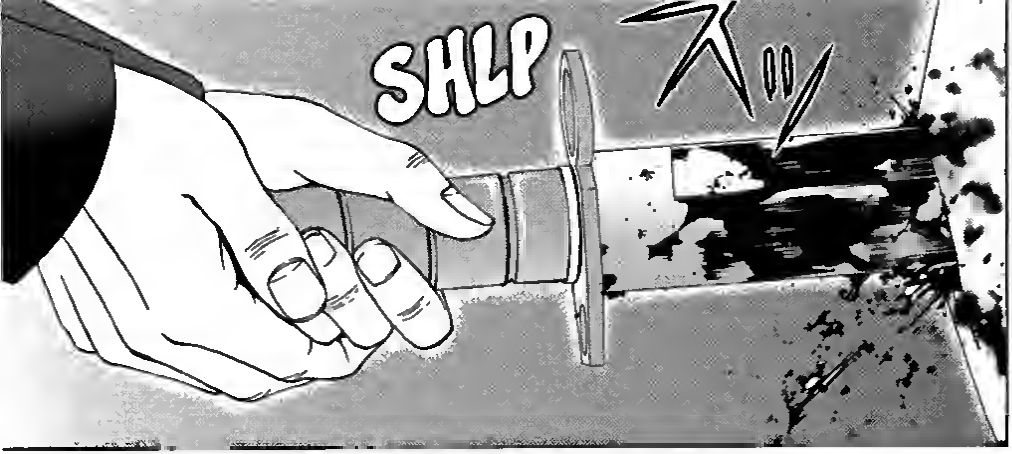
I'D SAY THE BLADE LENGTH IS ABOUT ONE SHAKU (30CM), THE WIDTH IS ONE AND A HALF SUN (4.5CM), AND IT WEIGHS THREE HUNDRED MOMME (1.2KG)... IT MUST BE DIFFICULT EVEN JUST TO HOLD IT.

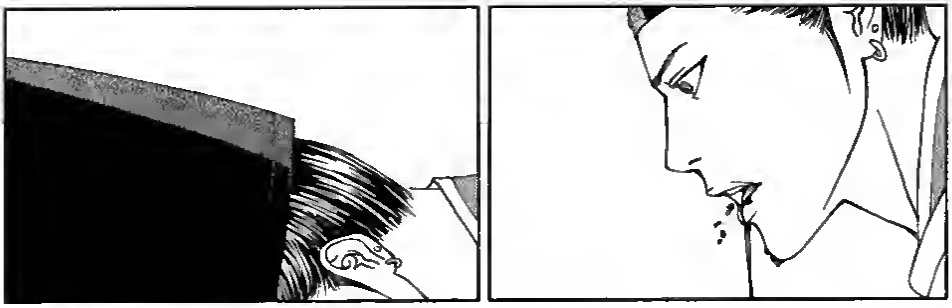
TN: THESE ARE ANTIQUATED JAPANESE UNITS OF MEASURE, WHICH HERE SERVE TO DATE AKAMUSHI.


SHAP
BUT NOW THAT I CAN, EVEN LIONS DON'T SCARE ME.
CUTTIN' YOUR SCRAWNY HEAD OFF'LL BE EASY.
HEH!

WATCH THIS!
VYNN
VYNN
HRAHHHH!!
FWP

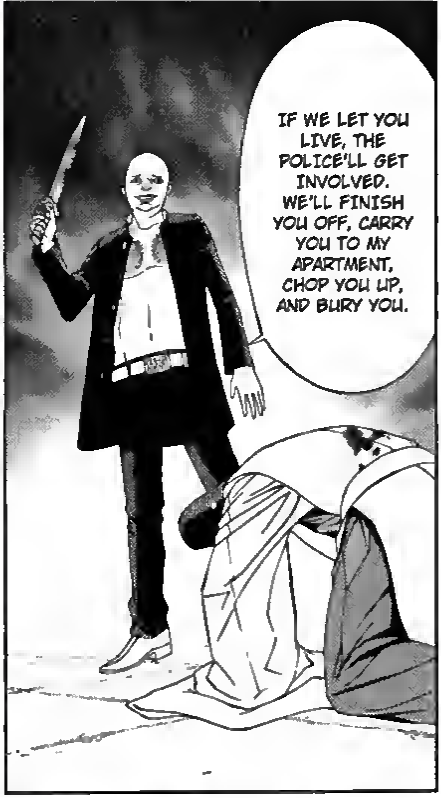
CHNK

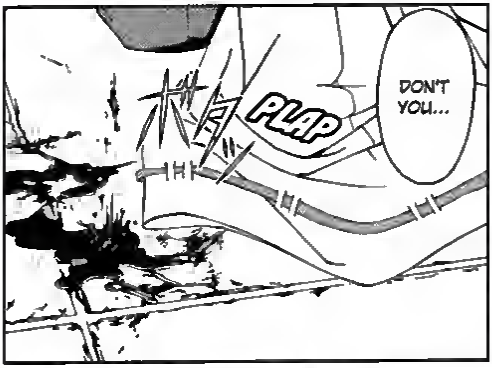

SHLP



SEE THAT...?
I GOT HIM!
SLUMP

YEAH!
SOUNDS GOOD!

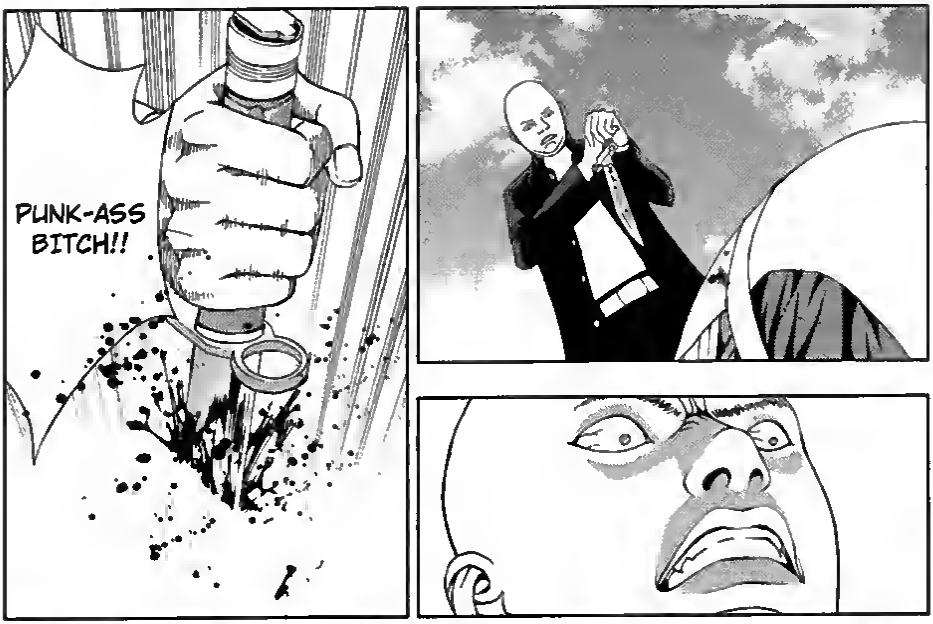

IF WE LET YOU LIVE, THE POLICE'LL GET INVOLVED. WE'LL FINISH YOU OFF, CARRY YOU TO MY APARTMENT, CHOP YOU UP, AND BURY YOU.


PLAP
DON'T YOU...

WHY SHOULD WE BOTHER?!

DON'T ANY OF YOU CARE ABOUT THE FUTURE?

FYI, THIS IS HARDLY THE FIRST OR SECOND TIME WE'VE OFFED SOMEBODY!
THEY'RE ALL BURIED IN THE WOODS NORTH OF HERE, AND THAT'S WHERE YOU'RE HEADED!
WHAT'S ALL THAT ABOUT? ARE YOU ASKIN' ME NOT TO KILL YOU?
YOU MIGHT AS WELL JUST COME OUT AND SAY IT!
...THEN WHAT ABOUT LIFE? I MEAN BOTH YOURS AND OTHER PEOPLES'.
OH? HOW'S THAT, EXACTLY?
KILL HIM!!
FINISH HIM OFF!!
YEAH, KILL HIS ASS!!
HOW CAN HE SOUND SO CALM WHEN HE'S DYING...?!


PUNK-ASS BITCH!!

SHUNK
SHUNK
SHUNK

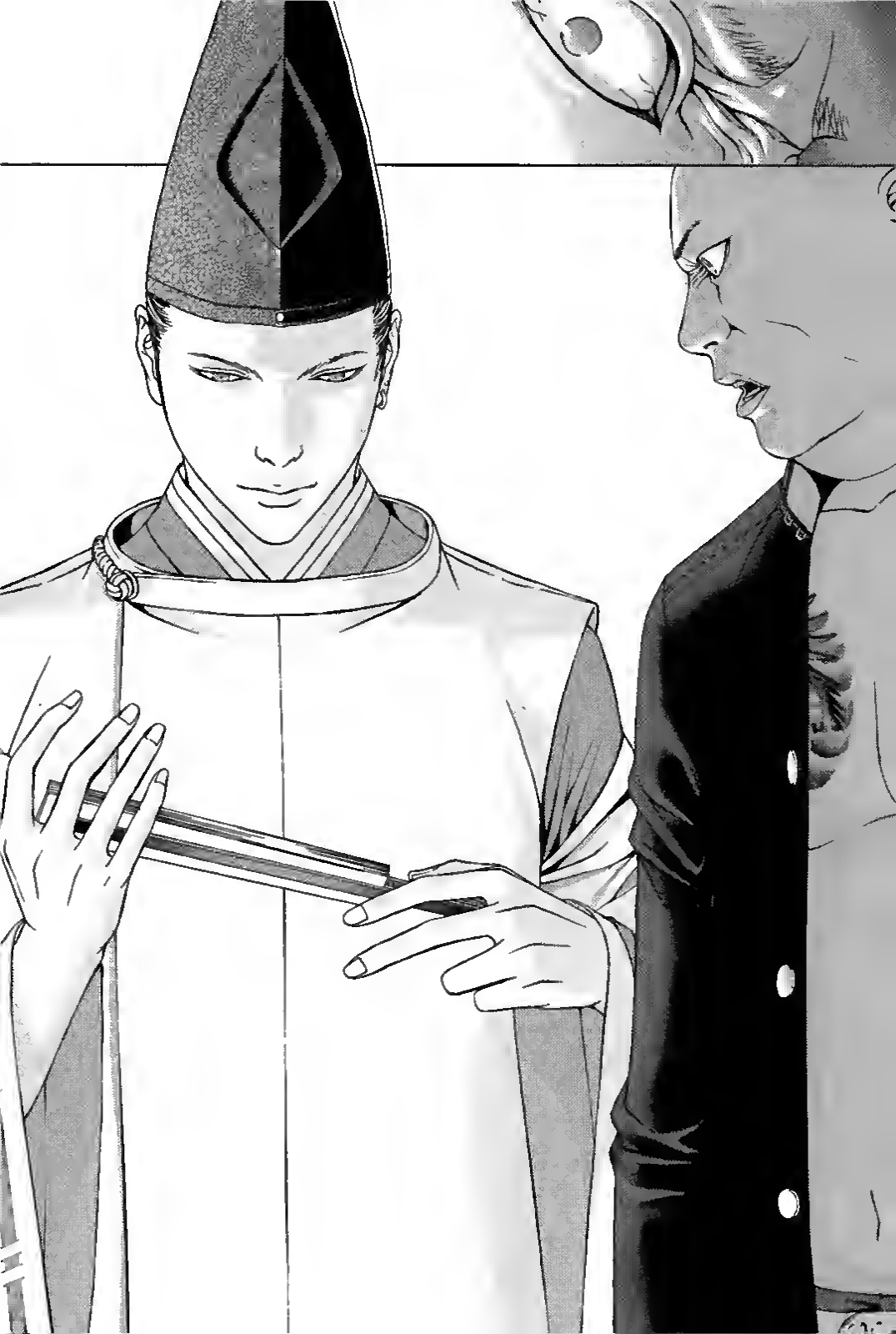
EHHH HEH HEH HEHHH!!
SHUNK
SHUNK
I ALREADY CUT HIM UP SO MUCH, IT'LL BE EASIER TO CARRY HIM.
AHHH HAH HAH HAH!
?

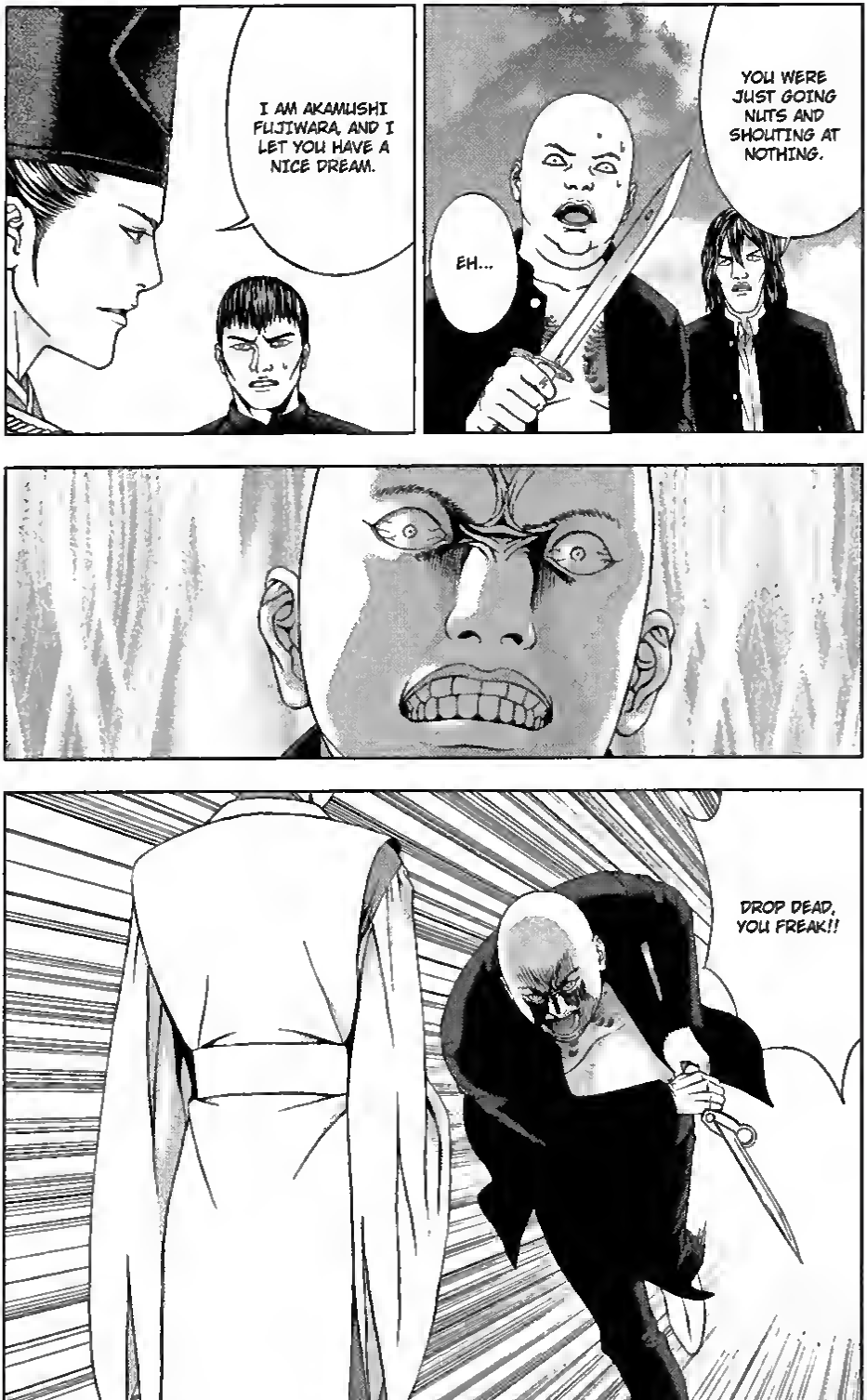
HEY... WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

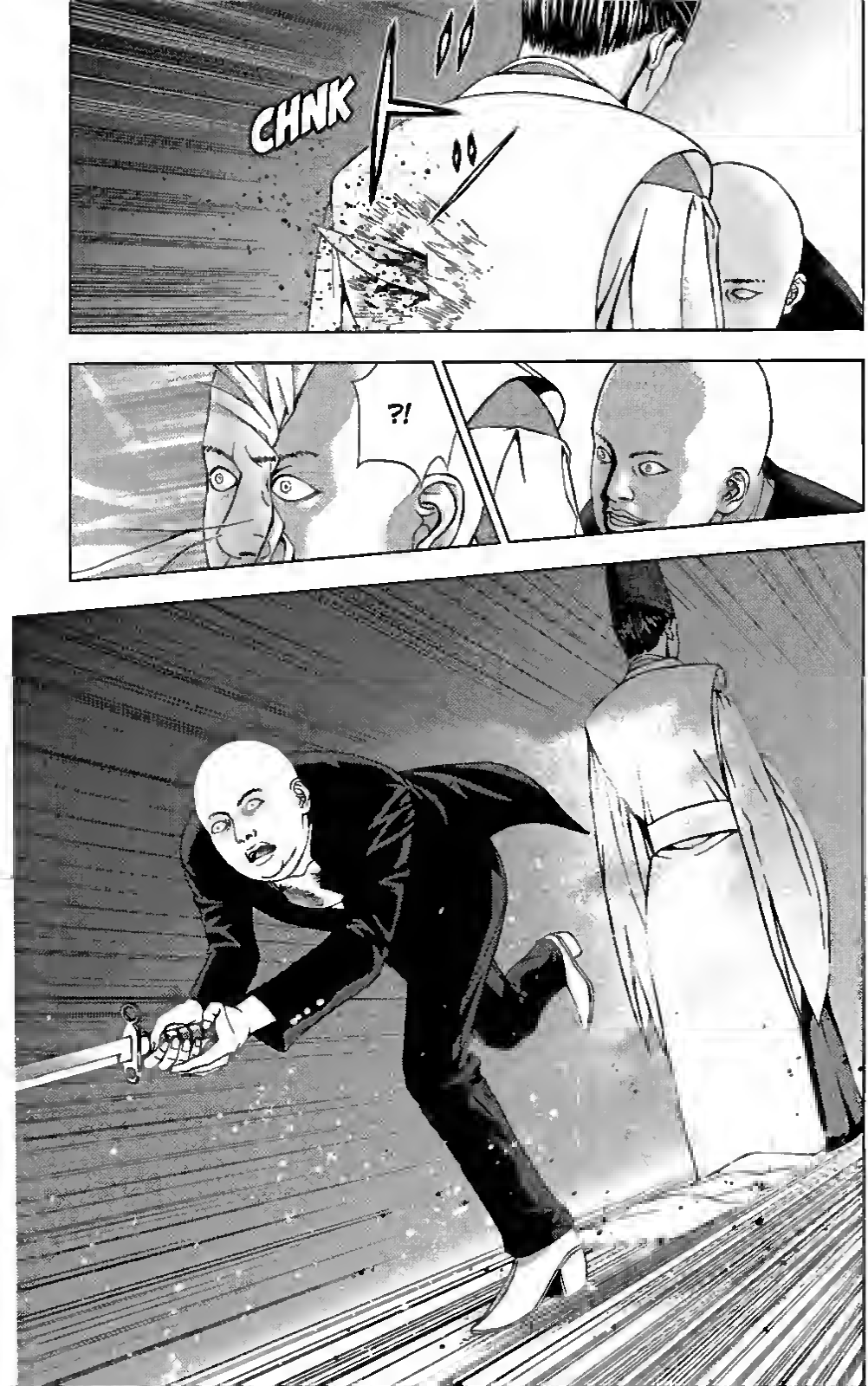
THAT KNIFE OF YOURS...? IT HASN'T HIT HIM ONCE.

HUH?

WHAT?!




I AM AKAMUSHI FUJIWARA, AND I LET YOU HAVE A NICE DREAM.
YOU WERE JUST GOING NUTS AND SHOUTING AT NOTHING.
EH...
DROP DEAD, YOU FREAK!!


CHNK
?!

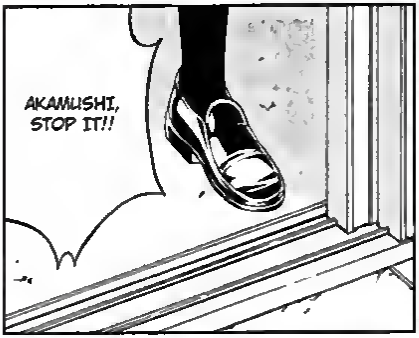
I EXPECT IT WAS QUITE THE FANCIFUL EXPERIENCE. IT'S THEREFORE TIME YOU PAID THE FEE.
HUH?!
YOU PROBABLY DON'T HAPPEN TO HAVE ANY MONEY ON YOU, SO YOU CAN PAY WITH YOUR BODY.
LIKE THIS.
YANK

GYAHHHH!!
GLCH

WAIT...!
CRACK
SHUDDER
SHUDDER

YOU'RE NOT THROUGH?!

YANK

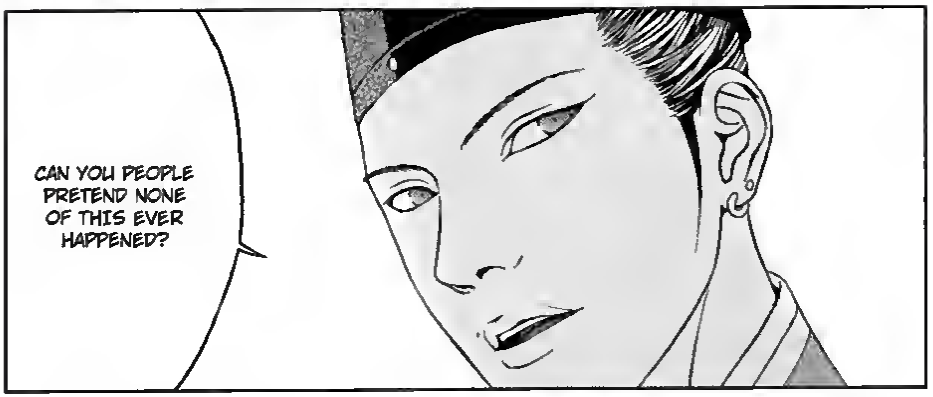

AKAMUSHI, STOP IT!!

THE POLICE...? PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO ARE ONLY GOOD FOR ARRESTING SCUM. I'LL DEAL WITH THEM TOO IF YOU—

ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL HIM?! IF YOU DO, THE POLICE WILL COME!! THIS'LL TURN INTO A BIG MESS!!

NO!! PLEASE, DON'T BE ANGRY ANYMORE!! IF YOU'RE PUNISHING HIM FOR MY SAKE, YOU CAN STOP NOW!!

HMM...


CAN YOU PEOPLE PRETEND NONE OF THIS EVER HAPPENED?

FINE...

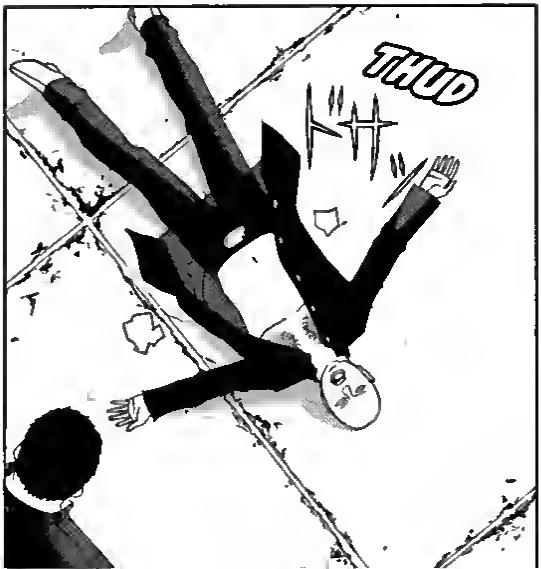
20, CONTRACT OF TERROR
二十、恐怖の証文

FINE...

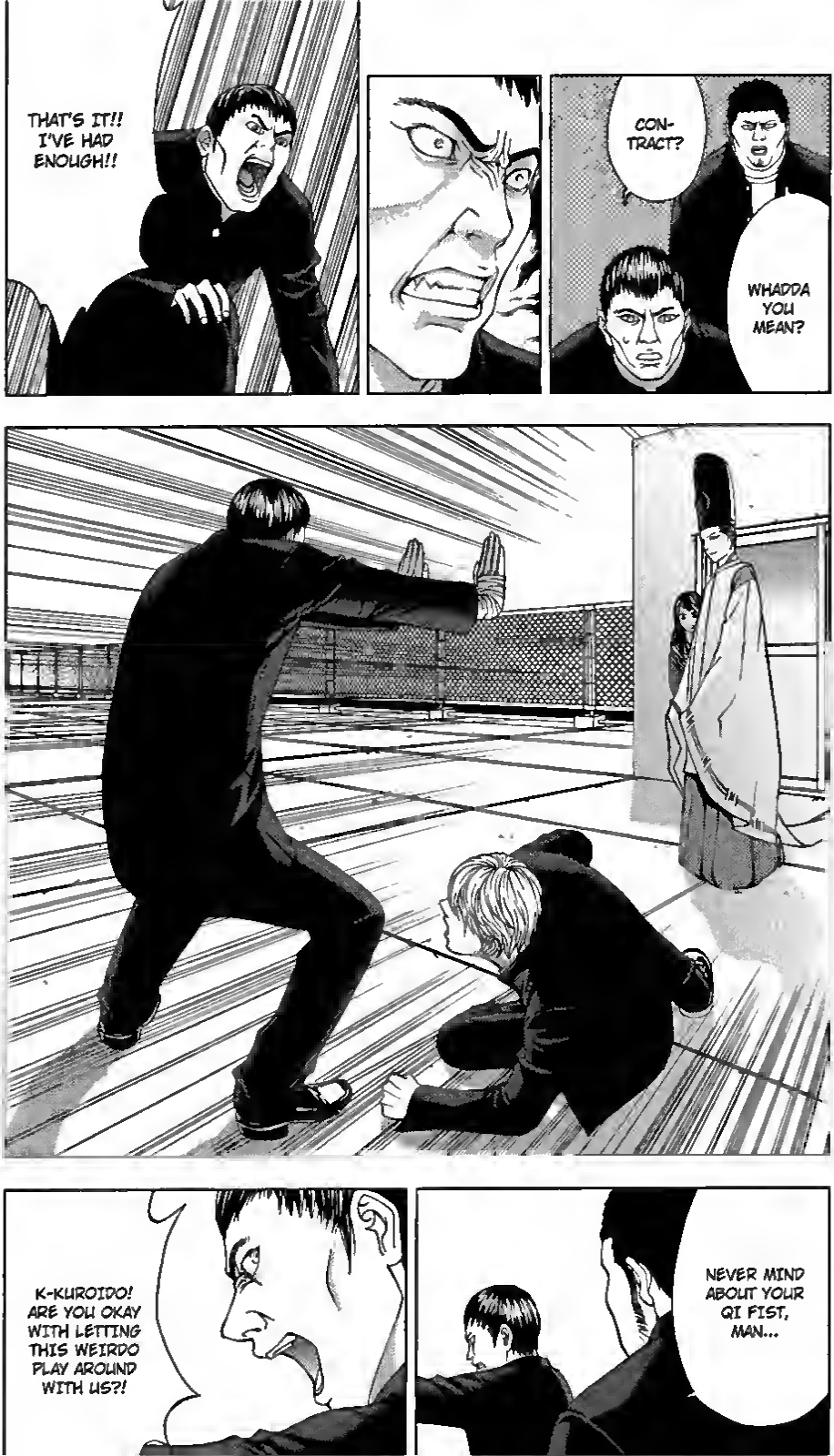
VVNN

HMM... CAN YOU PEOPLE PRETEND NONE OF THIS EVER HAPPENED?

FWM


THUD

HUMANS HAVE SUCH LOOSE TONGUES, THOUGH.
!!
!!
THAT'S THE FIRM CONCLUSION TO WHICH MY LONG LIFE HAS LED ME.
LET'S ENTER INTO A CONTRACT.


THAT'S IT!! I'VE HAD ENOUGH!!
CON-TRACT?
WHADDA YOU MEAN?
K-KUROIDO! ARE YOU OKAY WITH LETTING THIS WEIRDO PLAY AROUND WITH US?!
NEVER MIND ABOUT YOUR QI FIST, MAN...

DO YOU STILL WANT TO FIGHT?
N-NO, BUT...
DO YOU REMEMBER, KUROIDO? ABOUT THAT "SMASHED BEAR" INCIDENT IN THE MOUNTAINS WEST OF HERE?
STAR
TH-THAT THING...?!

BWOOSH

I'VE ONLY USED IT THAT ONE TIME... BUT I'LL TRY THIS FOR REAL!
YOU MEAN... YOU DID THAT?!
UH...

HOMMM

A BEAR, EH...?
SMASH HIM!!
THAT'S INCREDIBLE, TAKITA!!
GET HIM!!
AKAMUSHI, RUN!! HE'LL SMASH YOU LIKE THAT BEAR!!

ヒョオオオ
WHOOOOO
I ONCE RAN OUT OF FOOD WHILE TRAINING IN THE MOUNTAINS, A THOUSAND YEARS AGO...
ALTOGETHER, I ATE TWELVE OR THIRTEEN BEARS HEAVY WITH THEIR WINTER FAT.

FOR DESSERT AH YES, I HAD TWO WHOLE TIGERS.
RIP
RIP

ALL LIVING THINGS MUST FEED ON OTHER LIFE IN ORDER TO SURVIVE. DOESN'T THAT STRIKE YOU AS BEING VERY SAD?

YOU ATE BEARS? HAHAHAHA...
HE'S PROBABLY... NOT LYING...

HE REALLY DID EAT THEM...
AHAH... HAHAHA...

BUT LIFE CANNOT GO ON IF IT DOES NOT EAT... THE WORLD IS BUILT UPON THIS SADNESS.

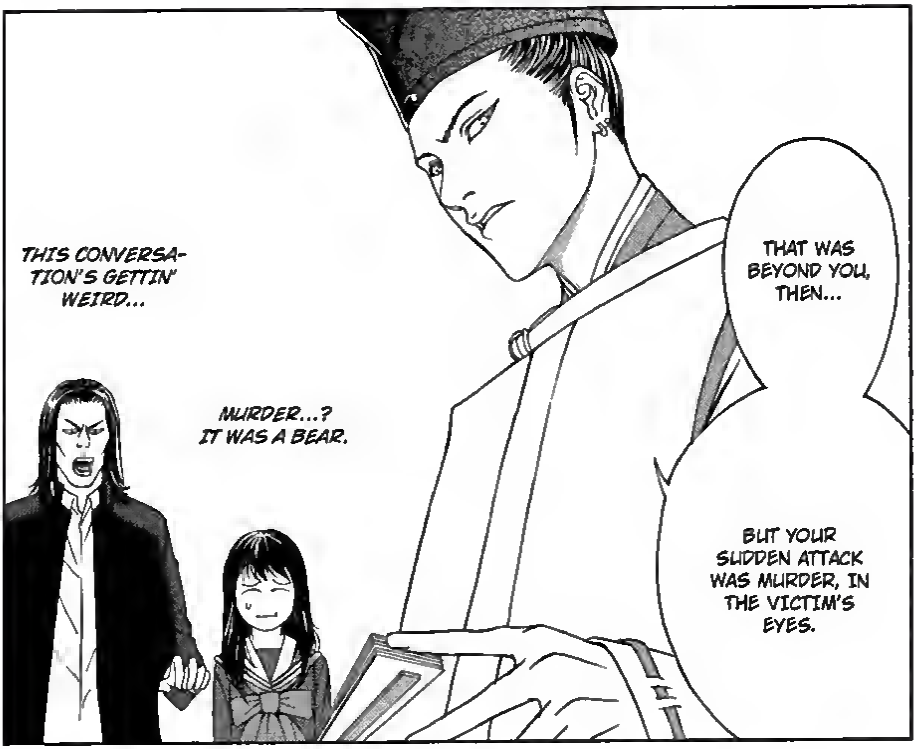
I WENT UP IN THE MOUNTAINS TO PRACTICE MY QI FIST!! THEN A BEAR SHOWED UP!! I'D HAVE BEEN BEAR FOOD IF I DIDN'T KILL IT!! THAT'S WHY I SMASHED IT!! NOT SO I COULD EAT IT!!

BOY... DID YOU EAT THE BEAR?
YOU DUMB-ASS!! WHY WOULD I EAT A BEAR?!

IF IT'S THAT SAD, PASS UP THE TWO-TIGER DESSERT!!

BUT TO THE ONE BEING EATEN, THIS IS MERCILESS MURDER. SHOWING MERCY IS OF NO AVAIL. THE ONE MUST STILL EAT, IN THE END.

HM. MOST LIKELY IT DIDN'T. DID IT ATTACK YOU, THEN?
...
DID THE BEAR SAY IT WAS GOING TO EAT YOU?
WHAT?!
THERE WAS A 2M-TALL BEAR RIGHT IN FRONT OF ME!! WHAT ELSE WAS I SUPPOSED TO DO?!
HM. I CAN SEE IT DID NOTHING. SO WHY DID YOU KILL IT?
CONVERSE WITH IT, OF COURSE!
HUHH?


THIS CONVERSATION'S GETTIN' WEIRD...
MURDER...? IT WAS A BEAR.
THAT WAS BEYOND YOU, THEN...
BUT YOUR SUDDEN ATTACK WAS MURDER, IN THE VICTIM'S EYES.

ARE YOU JUST PICKING ON US NOW?!
REALLY WEIRD!!
YOU'RE A CRIMINAL!!
IGH!!
THEREFORE I, AKAMUSHI FUJIWARA, WILL DECIDE YOUR SENTENCE IN LIEU OF THIS COUNTRY'S LENIENT LEGAL SYSTEM!!

YOU'RE JUST LOOKIN' FOR SOME TWISTED REASON TO FIGHT ME!!
THAT WAS THE LAST TIME YOU'LL EVER TALK DOWN AT ANYONE!!
...
!!
!!
FRIGGIN' DIE, CREEP!!

SHLOP
EEEEEK!!

SHMP
SHMP
SHMP

OGHHH! WHAT IS THIS?!
SPIDERS!!
SWARM

...
GUHAH!
OWWWW!! MY STOMACH... MY STOMACH'S BEING EATEN!! SOMETHING'S TRYING TO DEVOUR MY GUTS!!

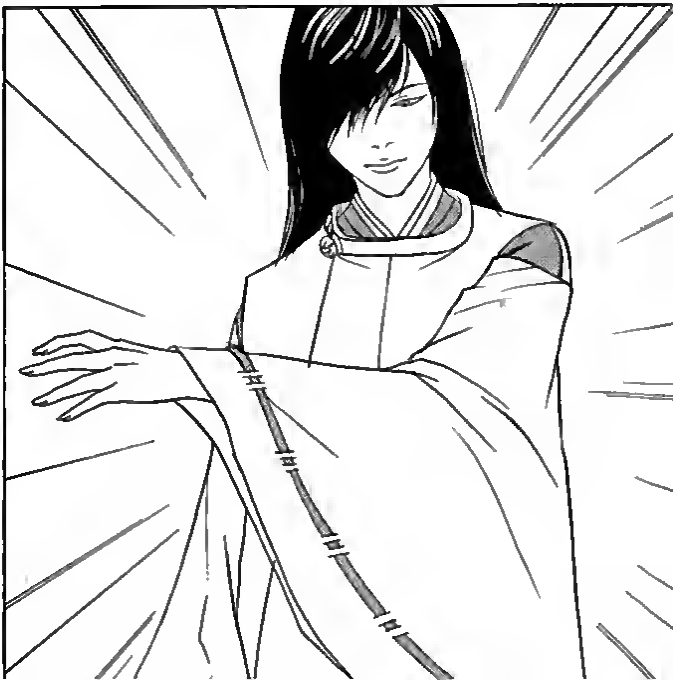
WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTINUE BEING EATEN FOR THE NEXT THREE DAYS?
ST... OP... IT... HE... LP... ME...

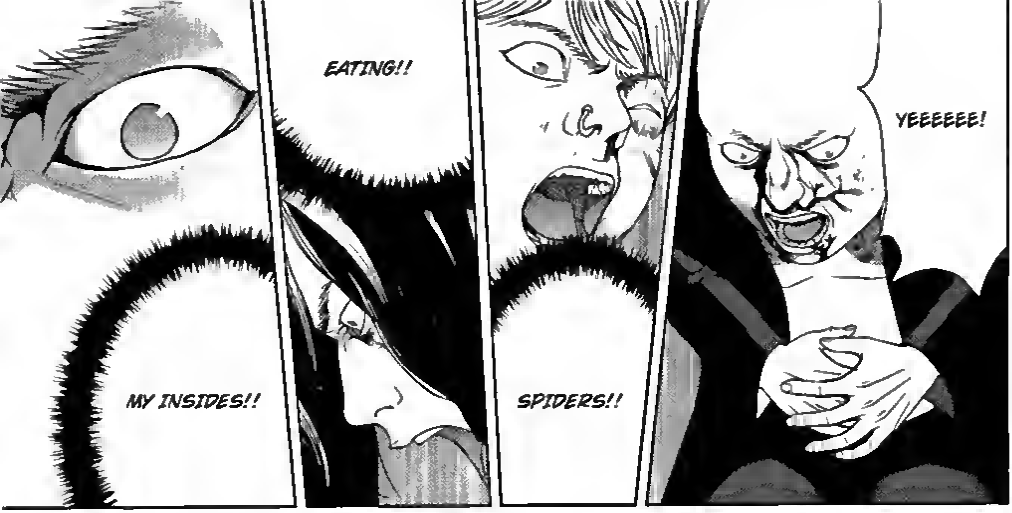
GOOD. THE REST OF YOU, OPEN YOUR MOUTHS.

VERY WELL. DO YOU SWEAR NEVER TO OPPOSE ME AGAIN?
I-I SWEAR...!

?!

HUH?!



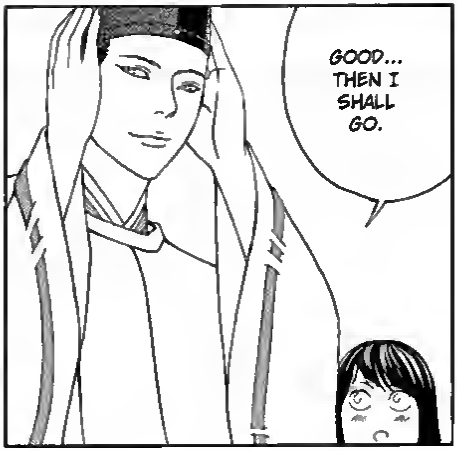

EATING!!
YEEEEEE!
MY INSIDES!!
SPIDERS!!

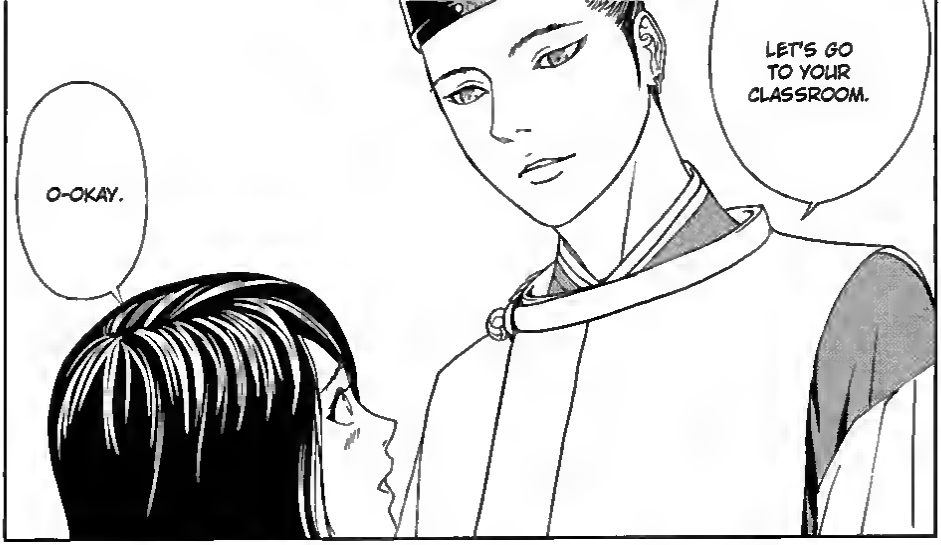
THAT'S THE CONTRACT.

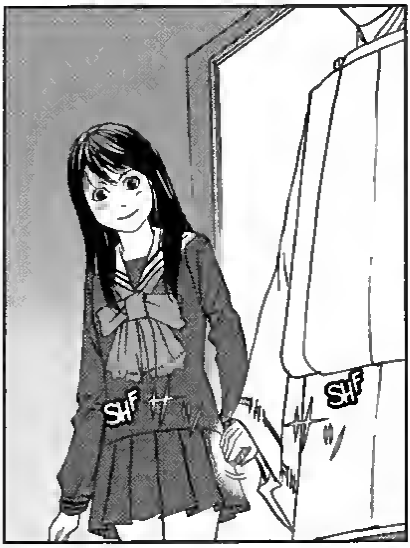
IF YOU TELL ANYONE ELSE WHAT YOU'VE SEEN HERE, THOSE SPIDERS WILL CONSUME YOUR STOMACH AND ENTRAILS. UNDERSTAND?

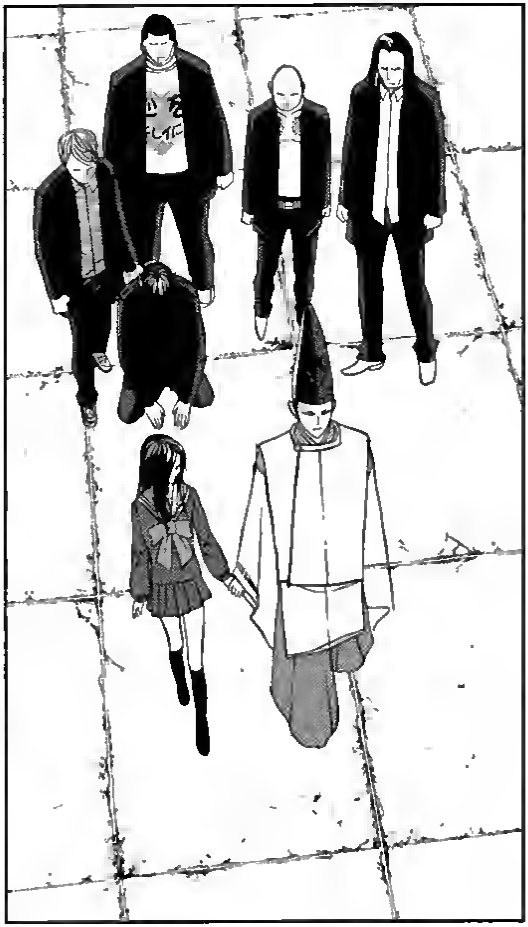
YES SIR!!
WE UNDER-STAND!!

OH, YES... YOU MUST NEVER TRIFLE WITH THIS GIRL AGAIN.
コク NOD コク

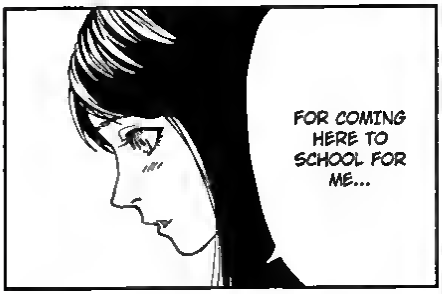

GOOD... THEN I SHALL GO.

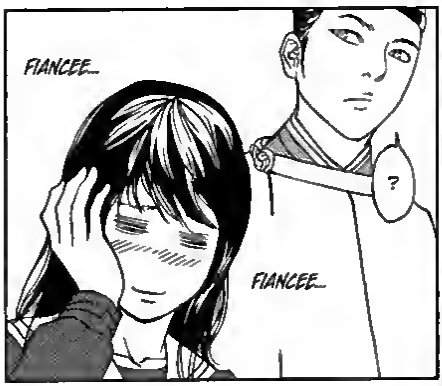

LET'S GO TO YOUR CLASSROOM.
O-OKAY.


SHF
SHF



THIS GUY IS... MY BOYFRIEND!!


FOR COMING HERE TO SCHOOL FOR ME...


FIANCEE...
?
FIANCEE...

AKAMUSHI ...THANK YOU.
FOR WHAT?

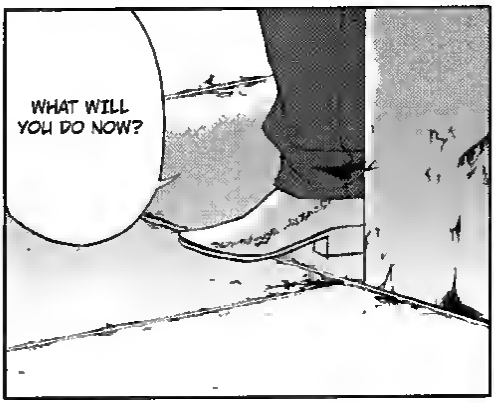
IT DOESN'T EXCUSE YOU FROM THE RUDENESS YOU DISPLAYED TOWARD MY FIANCEE.
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
N-NOTHING! NOTHING AT ALL!!

BOTH MY FAMILY AND I WILL BE AT PEACE WITH HIM HERE.

GRANDDAD'S IN THE STOREHOUSE AND MOM'S BACK TO NORMAL... I FIGURE DAD WILL CHEER UP AGAIN, TOO, AND THE LAUGHING FACE IS GONE.

...IT'S COME.

HUH?
?
NOTHING. LET'S GO.


WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?

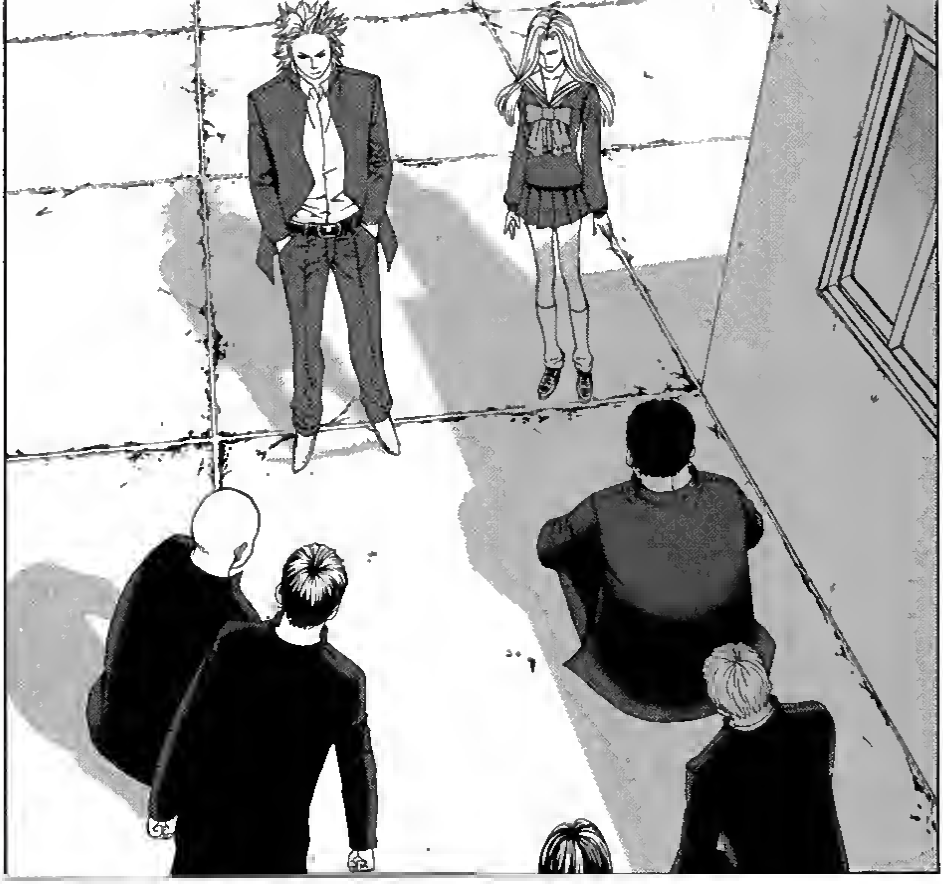
OH YEAH? COULD YOU SAY THAT IN FRONT OF HIM?
THE SAME AS WE'VE ALWAYS DONE. WE AIN'T BACKIN' DOWN

YOU GUYS CAN'T GO BACK TO THE WAY THINGS WERE! ONE LOOK, AND EVERYONE WILL KNOW YOU LOST! YOU GUYS'RE THROUGH!
SH-SHUT UP!!

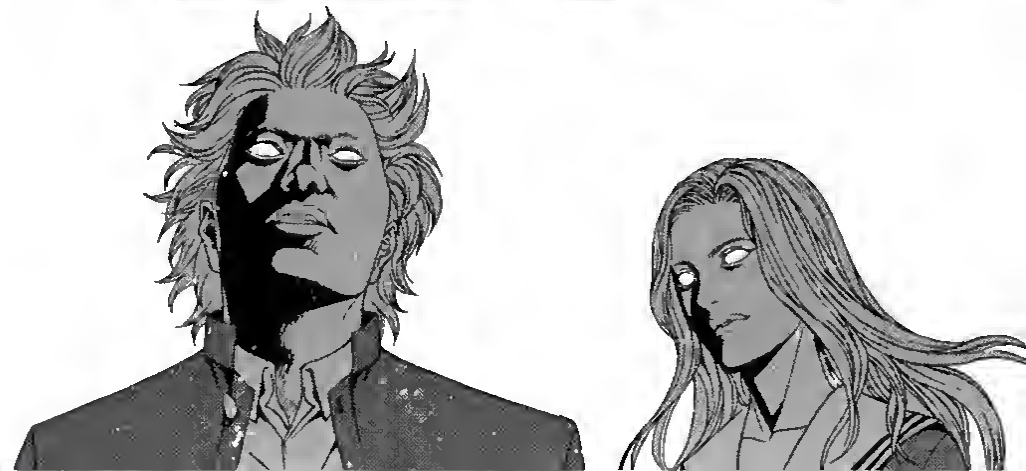
SH-SHUT YOUR HOLE!!

I-IS THAT YOU, SHIMURA?!
SATOMI?!

# 二十一、化け物劇場



SATOMI?!
IS THAT YOU, SHIMU-RA?!

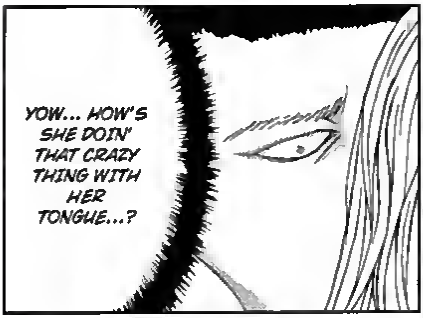


WE'RE HERE TO HAVE A LOOK AT HOW LOW YOU GUYS HAVE SUNK!
WHAT'RE YOU DOING UP HERE?
HAVE YOU GONE INSANE?!
WHAT?!

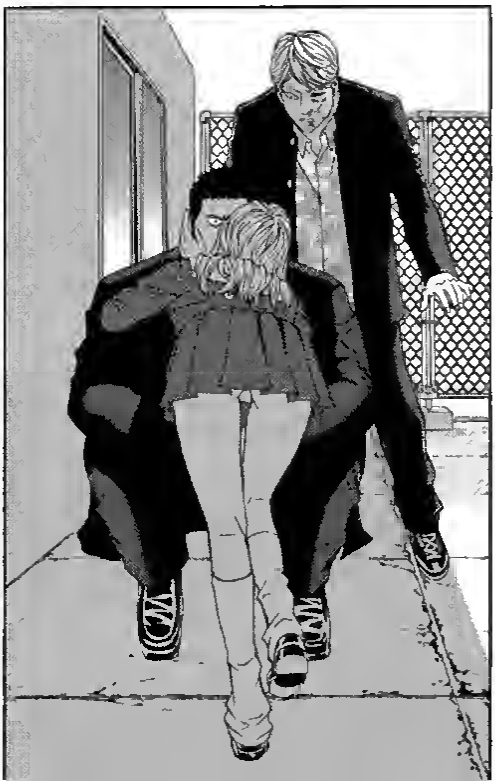
HE AND I GOT EATEN LAST NIGHT. IT'S MADE US CRAZY.
THAT'S RIGHT.
YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST GET AWAY WITH COPPIN' THAT ATTITUDE WITH US?!
MAYBE WE LOST TO HIM, BUT WE'LL KICK YOUR ASSES!!
?

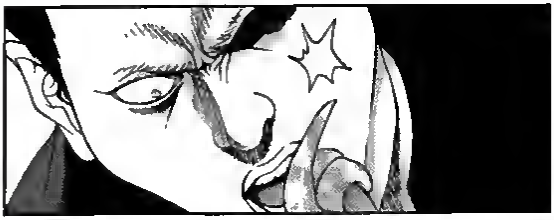
!!!

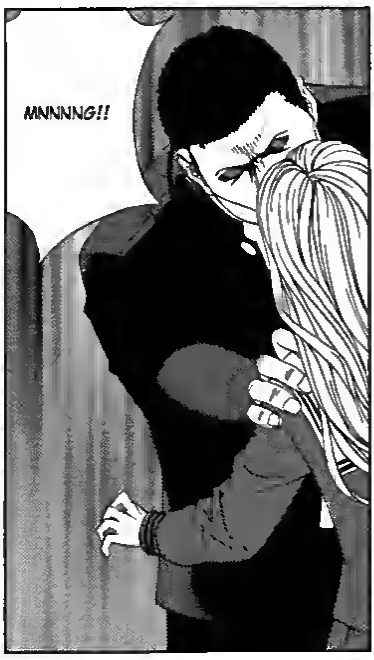
HUHN?

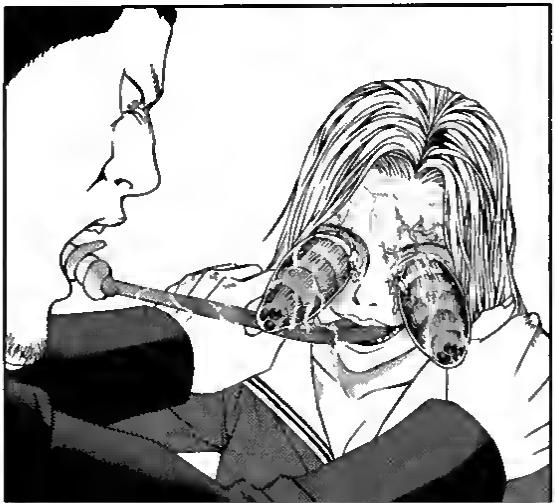

YOW... HOW'S SHE DOIN' THAT CRAZY THING WITH HER TONGUE...?

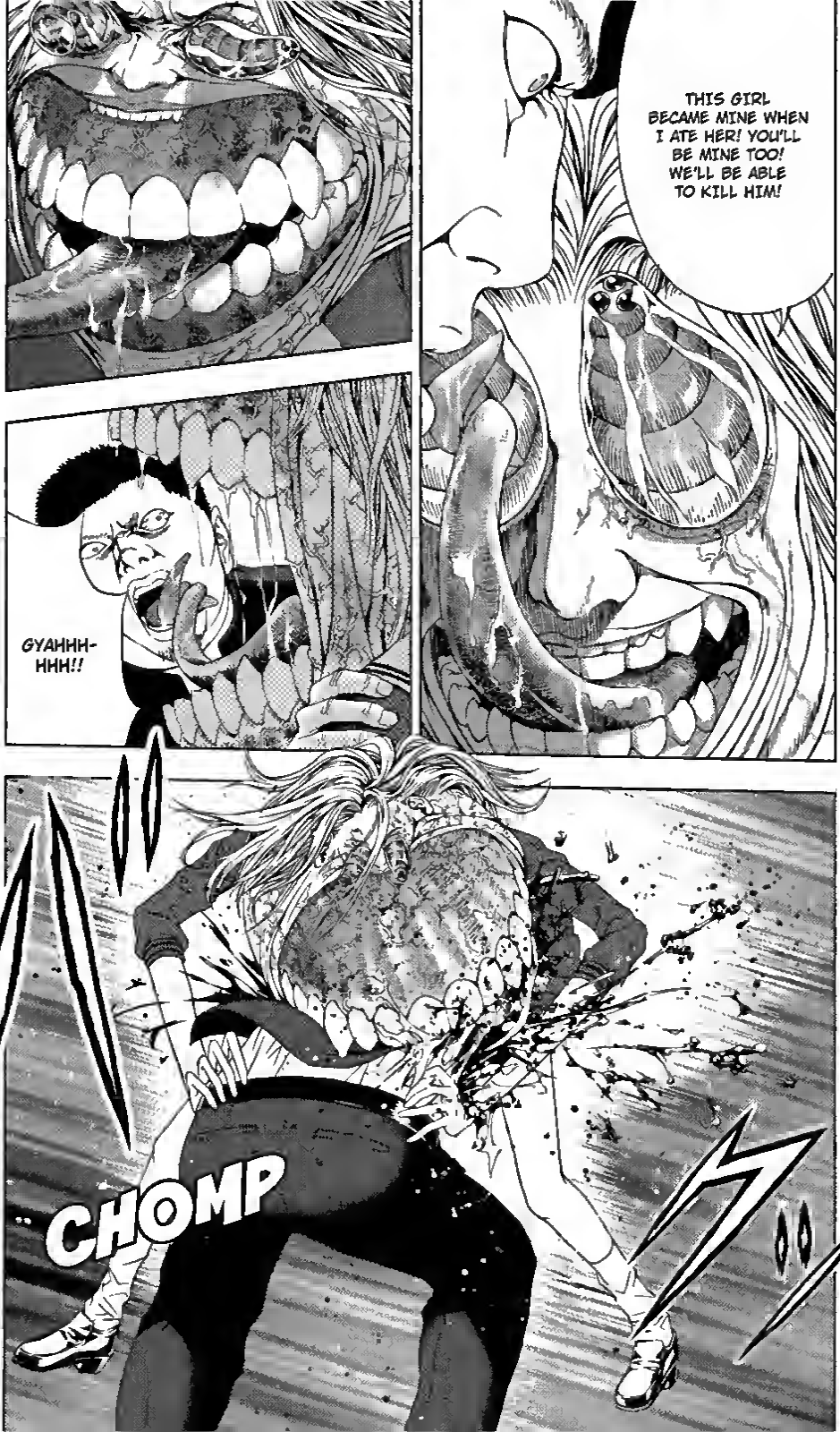
WELL? DOES THAT FEEL GOOD?






MNNNNG!!

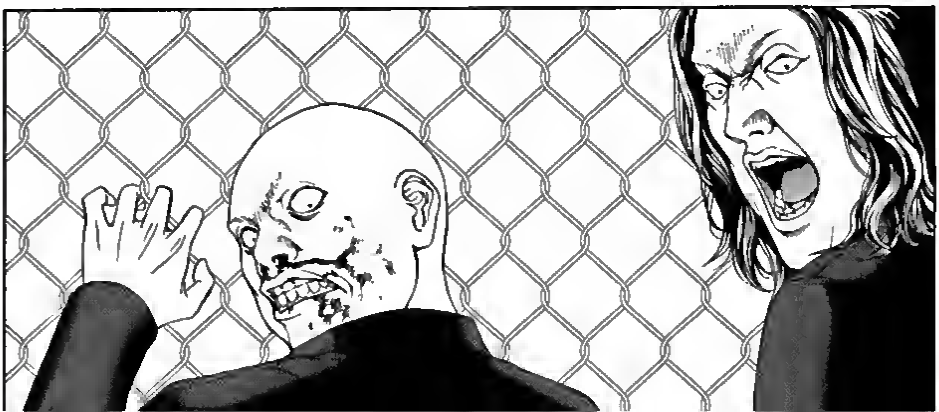



THIS GIRL BECAME MINE WHEN I ATE HER! YOU'LL BE MINE TOO! WE'LL BE ABLE TO KILL HIM!
GYAHHH-HHH!!
CHOMP

WH-WH-WH-WHAT'S HAPPE-NING?!
CRUNCH
CRUNCH
FREAK!!

DIE!!
KRUNK

HELP ME!!
AUGHHHH!!
DANGLE



WAHH!
ALIGHHHH!

?

AHHHHHH!!

WHOA!!
STOP

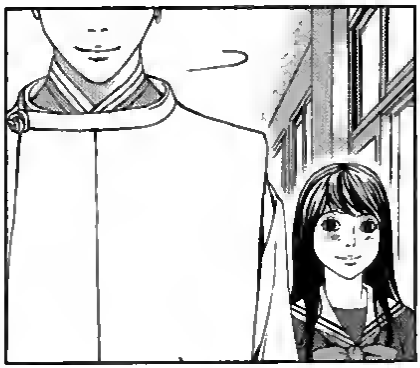
WHAT THE?!
JUST HURRY UP!!

HELP!!
PULL US IN!!

YANK
YEEEEE!!

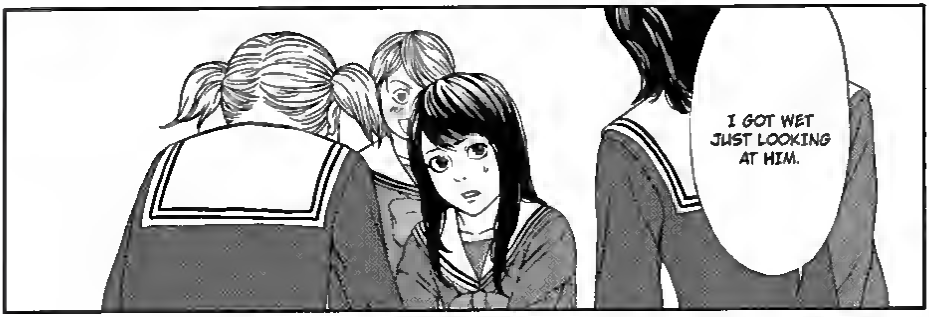
TMP
TMP

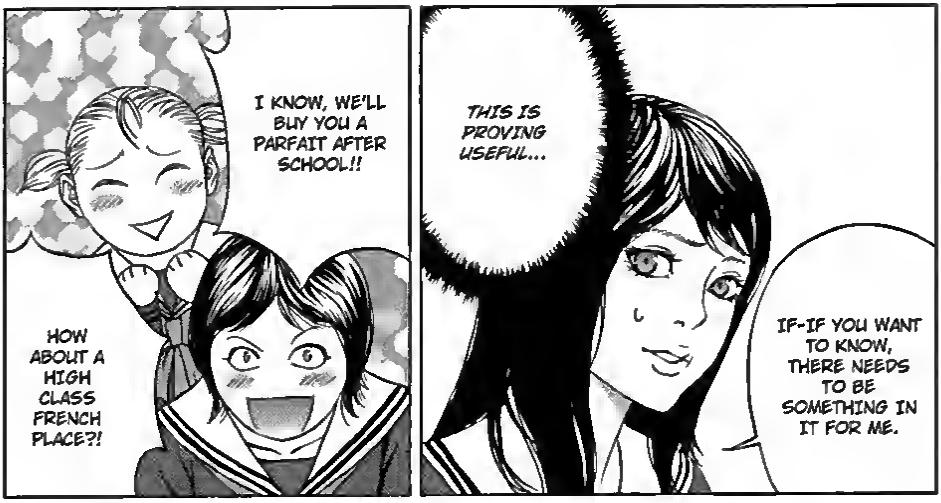
I'LL SEE YOU LATER, THEN.
MHM.



DO YOU KNOW HIS EMAIL ADDY?!
INTRODUCE ME! I'LL WRITE DOWN ALL MY INFO!

HEY, WHO IS THAT HOTTIE?!


I GOT WET JUST LOOKING AT HIM.


I KNOW, WE'LL BUY YOU A PARFAIT AFTER SCHOOL!!
HOW ABOUT A HIGH CLASS FRENCH PLACE?!
THIS IS PROVING USEFUL...
IF-IF YOU WANT TO KNOW, THERE NEEDS TO BE SOMETHING IN IT FOR ME.

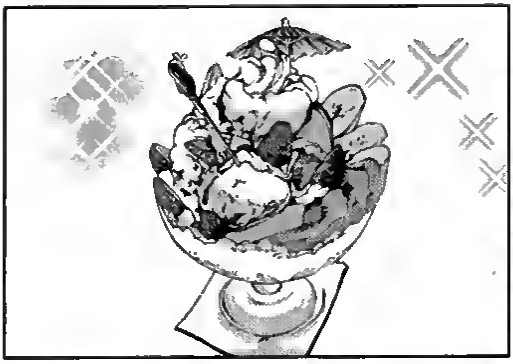
ALMOST THERE.

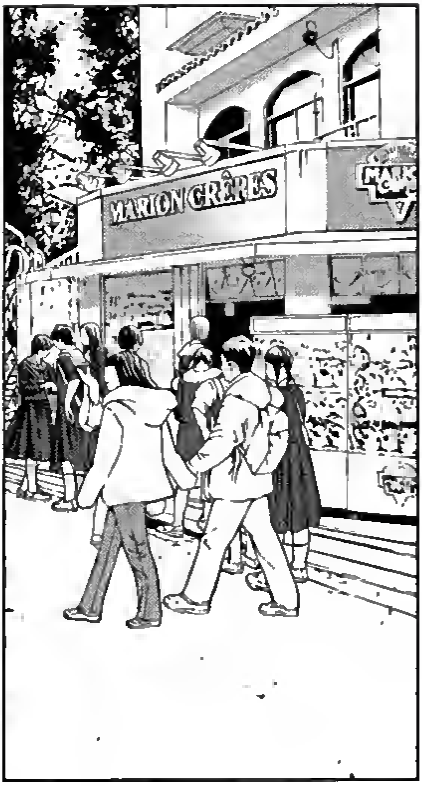
PBBT!

AHAHAHA!!
HOHOHO!!

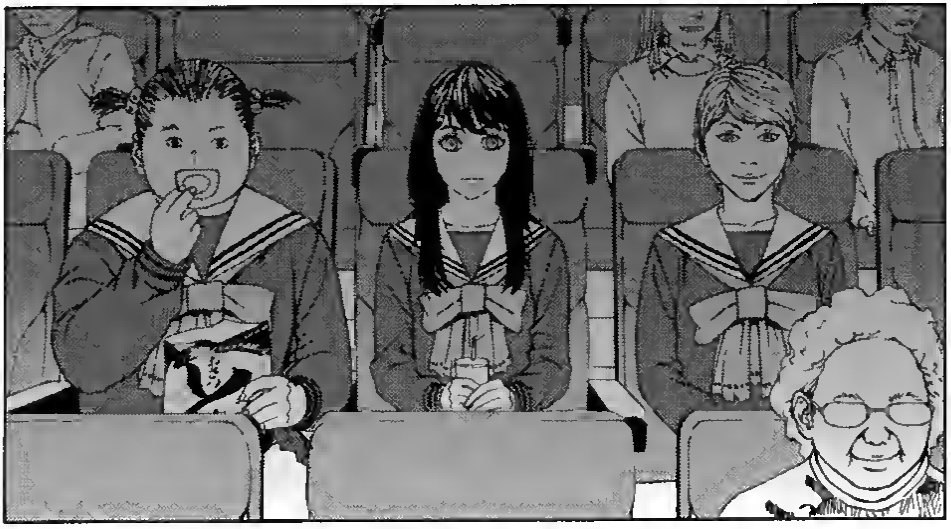
I'LL TOSS IN A MOVIE. THAT KOREAN FILM THEY'RE ALL TALKING ABOUT, FAT AND HAPPY!

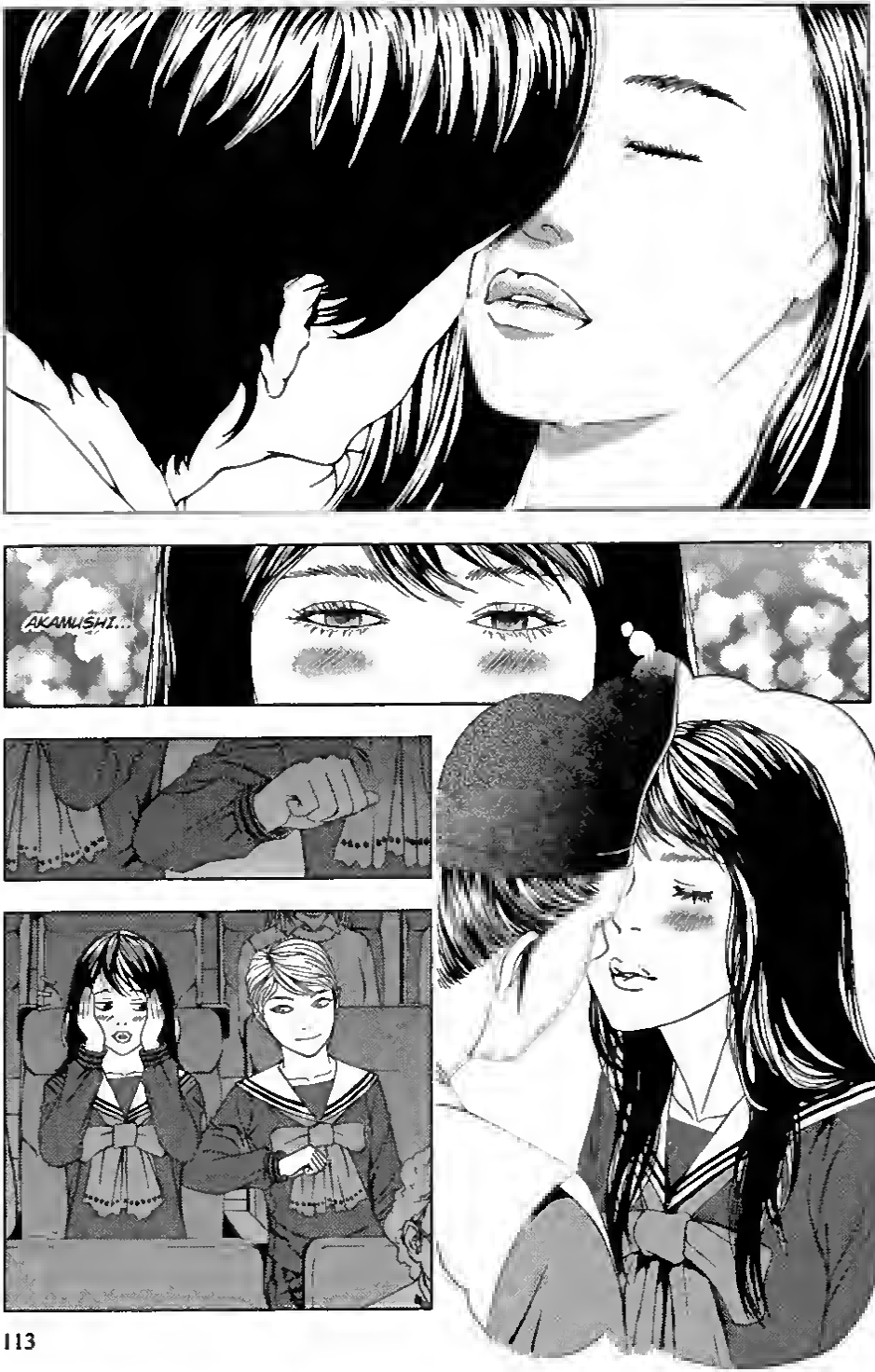
HOW MANY DAYS HAS IT BEEN SINCE I HEARD LAUGHTER ALL AROUND ME?
THIS IS WHAT'S NORMAL. THEY WERE ALL JUST TOO SCARED OF THE DELINQUENTS TO TALK TO ME.




MARION CRÊPES

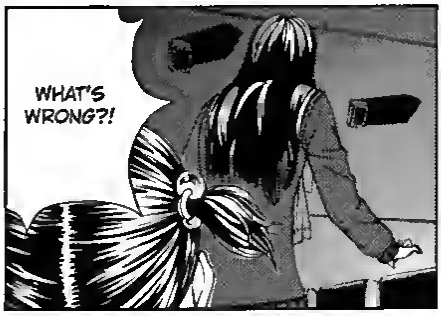
nikata
cinema



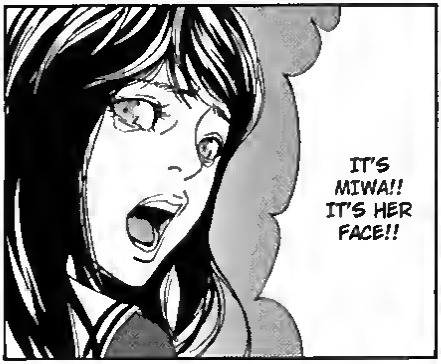

AKANUSHI...

IT'S A SECRET.
HEY, HOW'D YOU GET TO KNOW THAT GUY?!
NOPE.
COME ON, DON'T MAKE A HUGE DEAL OUT OF IT. TELL ME.
IS THAT A NO, NO MATTER WHAT?

CREEP
CREEP


WHAT'S WRONG?!

EEEEK!


IT'S MIWA!! IT'S HER FACE!!

MACHIKO... YOU TOO?!

WHAT'S WRONG WITH MIWA'S FACE?

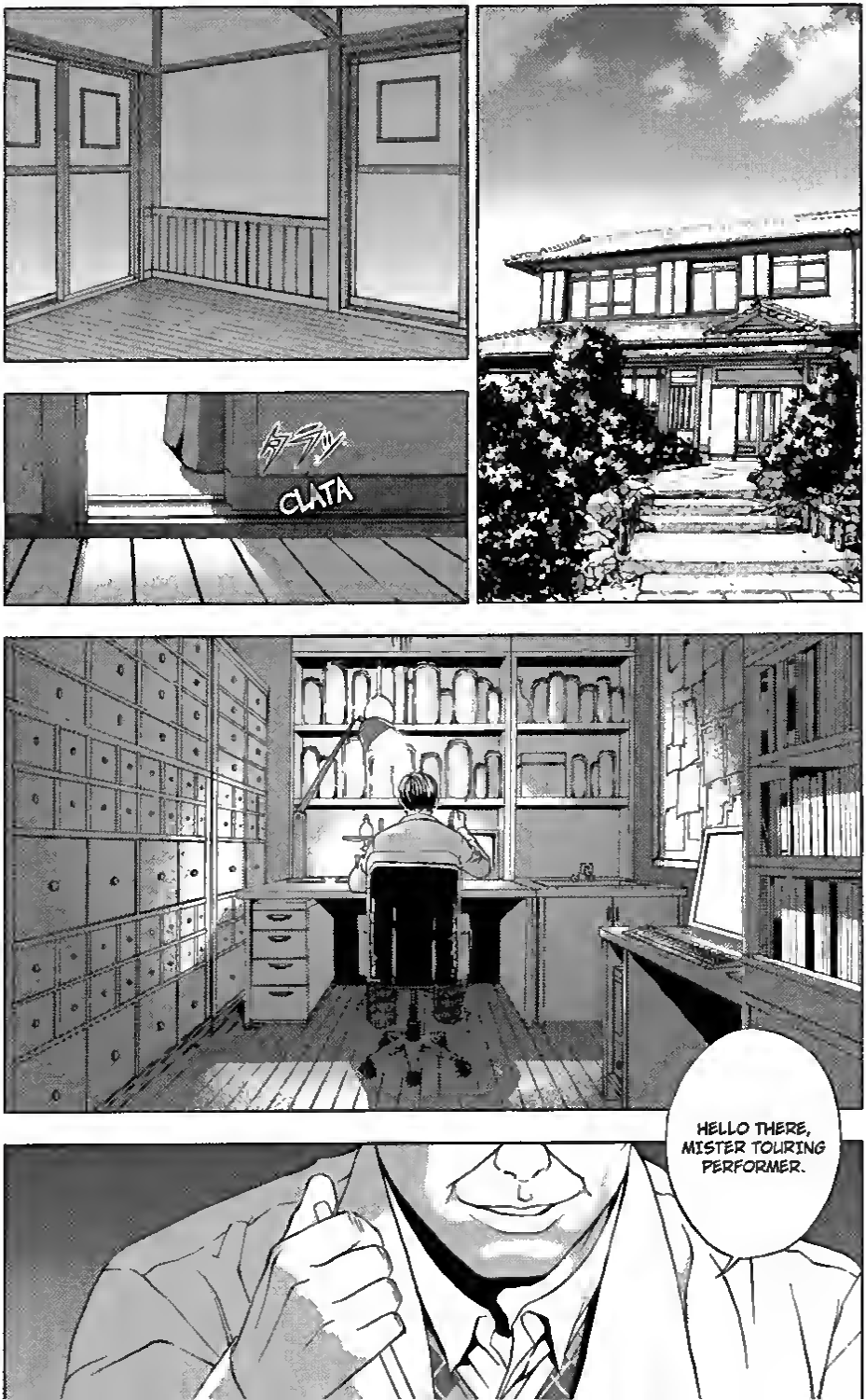
THE LAUGHING FACE GOT EVERYONE...! SOMEBODY... SOMEBODY HELP!!

NOOOOO!!

MAYBE HER FAMILY REALLY IS MESSED UP...?
WHAT GOT INTO MIDORI ALL OF A SUDDEN...?

WRECK EVERY LAST THING-

THAT GIRL WILL NEVER BE ALLOWED TO KNOW HUMAN HAPPINESS.


CLATA
HELLO THERE, MISTER TOURING PERFORMER.

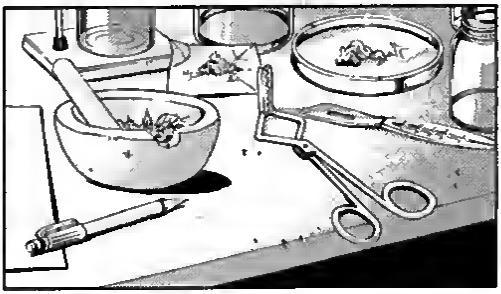
...WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE? ...OR SO I'D LIKE TO ASK, BUT YOU PICKED A GOOD MOMENT TO SHOW UP.

22. GREEDY CREATURES

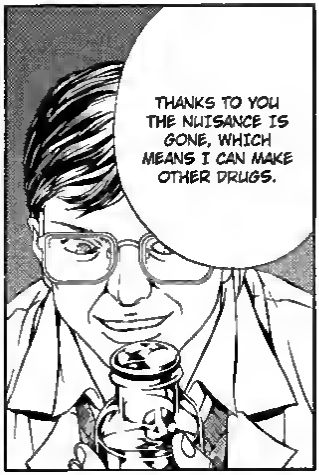
# 二十二、欲張りな生き物

...WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE? ...OR SO I'D LIKE TO ASK, BUT YOU PICKED A GOOD MOMENT TO SHOW UP.

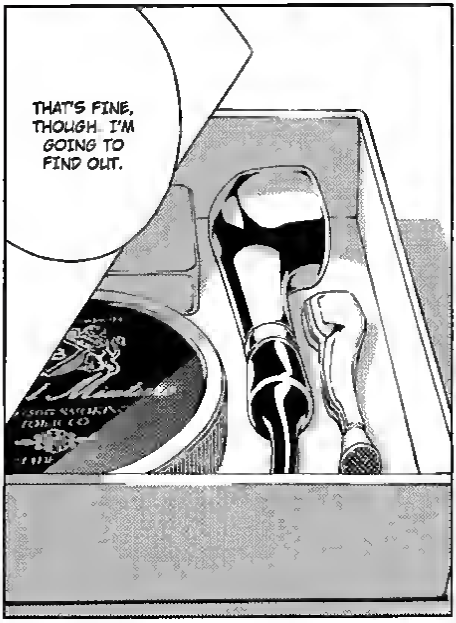
...AND WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
MIXING MEDICINE.



YOU'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH. TELL ME, THOUGH. WHAT ARE YOU?


THANKS TO YOU THE NUISANCE IS GONE, WHICH MEANS I CAN MAKE OTHER DRUGS.

OH? WHAT KIND?

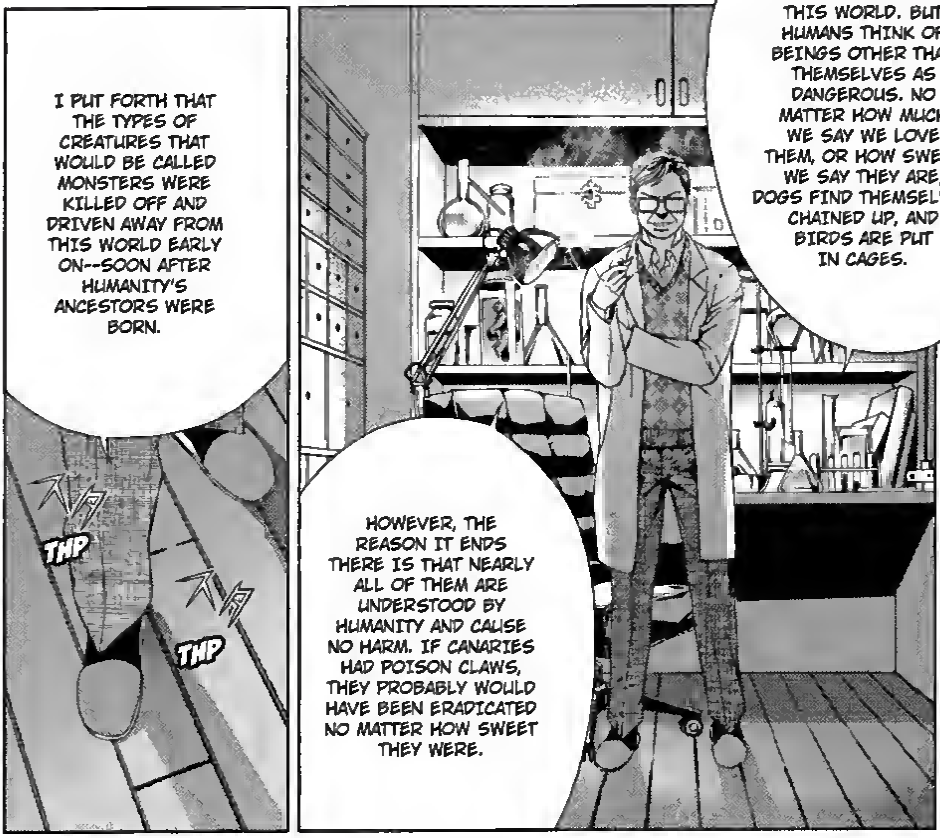

THAT'S FINE, THOUGH. I'M GOING TO FIND OUT.

WELL... HMM...

YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW, EH...?

FROM WHAT I'VE SEEN, YOU HAVE MORE IN COMMON WITH THE LAUGHING FACE THAN WITH US. DON'T YOU? IT'S FIRMLY GRABBED HOLD OF MY INTEREST.
...
ふぅ～
FWFF
SO. WHAT GOES ON INSIDE A MONSTER?

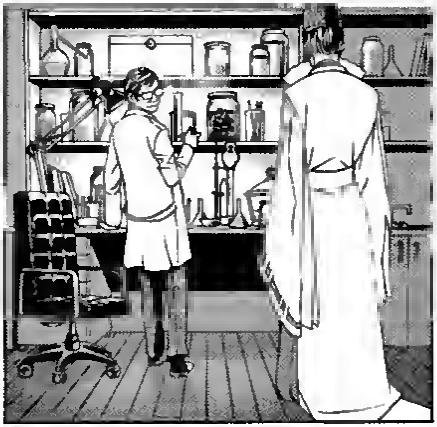
IT'S A STRANGE THING... I DIDN'T GIVE SUCH A THING ANY THOUGHT WHEN I WAS BEING THREATENED BY THE LAUGHING FACE, BUT A MORBID CURIOSITY FILLS ME NOW THAT MY SAFETY IS ASSURED...
I WONDER... COULD I HAVE FOUND A VALID USE FOR THE LAUGHING FACE?

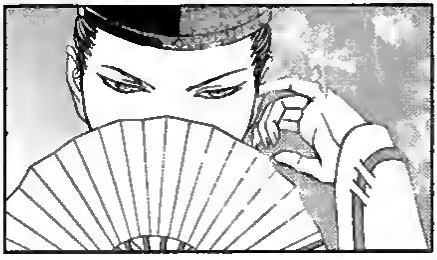

I PUT FORTH THAT THE TYPES OF CREATURES THAT WOULD BE CALLED MONSTERS WERE KILLED OFF AND DRIVEN AWAY FROM THIS WORLD EARLY ON--SOON AFTER HUMANITY'S ANCESTORS WERE BORN.
THP
THP
IT'S MORE OR LESS HUMANS WHO CONTROL THIS WORLD. BUT HUMANS THINK OF BEINGS OTHER THAN THEMSELVES AS DANGEROUS. NO MATTER HOW MUCH WE SAY WE LOVE THEM, OR HOW SWEET WE SAY THEY ARE, DOGS FIND THEMSELVES CHAINED UP, AND BIRDS ARE PUT IN CAGES.
HOWEVER, THE REASON IT ENDS THERE IS THAT NEARLY ALL OF THEM ARE UNDERSTOOD BY HUMANITY AND CAUSE NO HARM. IF CANARIES HAD POISON CLAWS, THEY PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN ERADICATED NO MATTER HOW SWEET THEY WERE.

THE MAJORITY OF THEM WERE DESTROYED, AND THE REMNANTS DISAPPEARED DEEP INTO THE MOUNTAINS, DEEP BENEATH THE SEA, OR INTO THE SKIES.
IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IF SOME EVEN HAD THE BILITY TO ESCAPE INTO OTHER DIMENSIONS... IN OTHER WORDS--

THE MONSTERS THAT DO APPEAR IN THIS WORLD ARE THE SAME AS ANIMALS THAT ARE VALUED FOR THEIR RARITY.

YOU UNDERSTAND WHY I'D WANT TO CAPTURE THEM AND EXPLORE THE MYSTERIES INSIDE THEIR BODIES, DON'T YOU?
SURELY YOU APPROVE.





IS THAT ALL?
WHAT?

THEN I'LL WRITE UP AN ACADEMIC STUDY. IT'LL BE AMAZING. IT'LL EVEN INCLUDE DRAWINGS OF MONSTER ANATOMY.
I BET I COULD BECOME A COLLEGE PROFESSOR, NO PROBLEM.

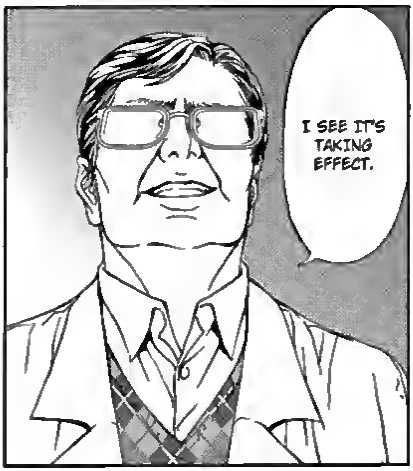
...I'LL SELL MONSTERS FOR SHOW... ALL AROUND THE WORLD. I'M SURE IT'D TURN A HANDSOME PROFIT.
THAT'S HONESTY.

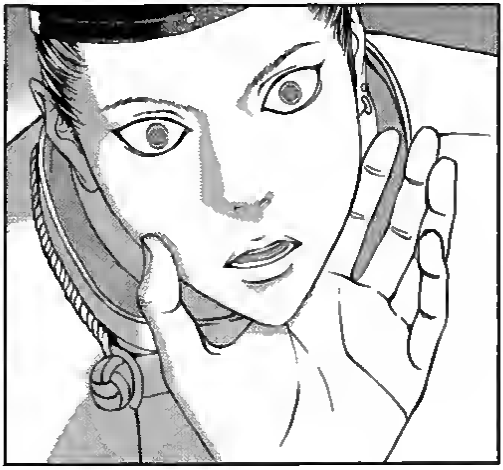
I'M ASKING YOU IF THAT'S ALL. YOUR WAY OF DOING THINGS IS TYPICAL FOR A HUMAN, BUT YOU'RE STILL LEAVING SOMETHING UNSAID. BE HONEST WITH ME.

ANSWER.

INDEED I DO! BUT THE LAUGHING FACE IS DEAD.
I COULD UNVEIL ITS CORPSE IN PUBLIC AND IT WOULD MAKE A DECENT SPLASH, BUT IT'D SOON BE FORGOTTEN.
YOU HAVE SOME NERVE, TO SELL OFF THOSE WHO CURSE YOU.
WHAT I REALLY NEED HERE IS A LIVING MONSTER.
OHH?

SLUMP


I SEE IT'S TAKING EFFECT.

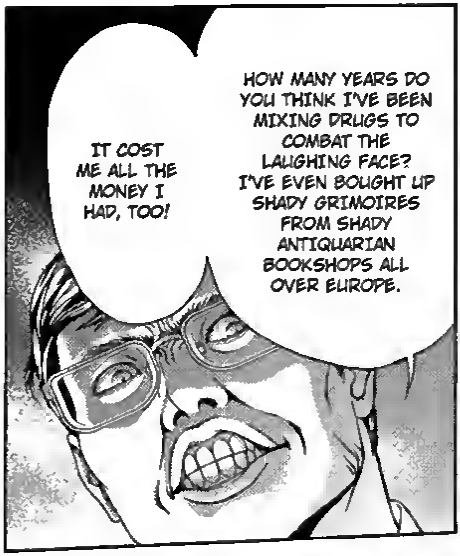


I WAS MIXING A DRUG INTO THE TOBACCO LEAVES. HUMANS CAN INHALE ANY AMOUNT OF IT JUST FINE, BUT A MONSTER WHO BREATHES IT WILL FIND HIS ENTIRE BODY PARALYZED.
WHUNT
GUHAH!

GRAHHHHH!!
SKRRRRRRD
GH...
OO...

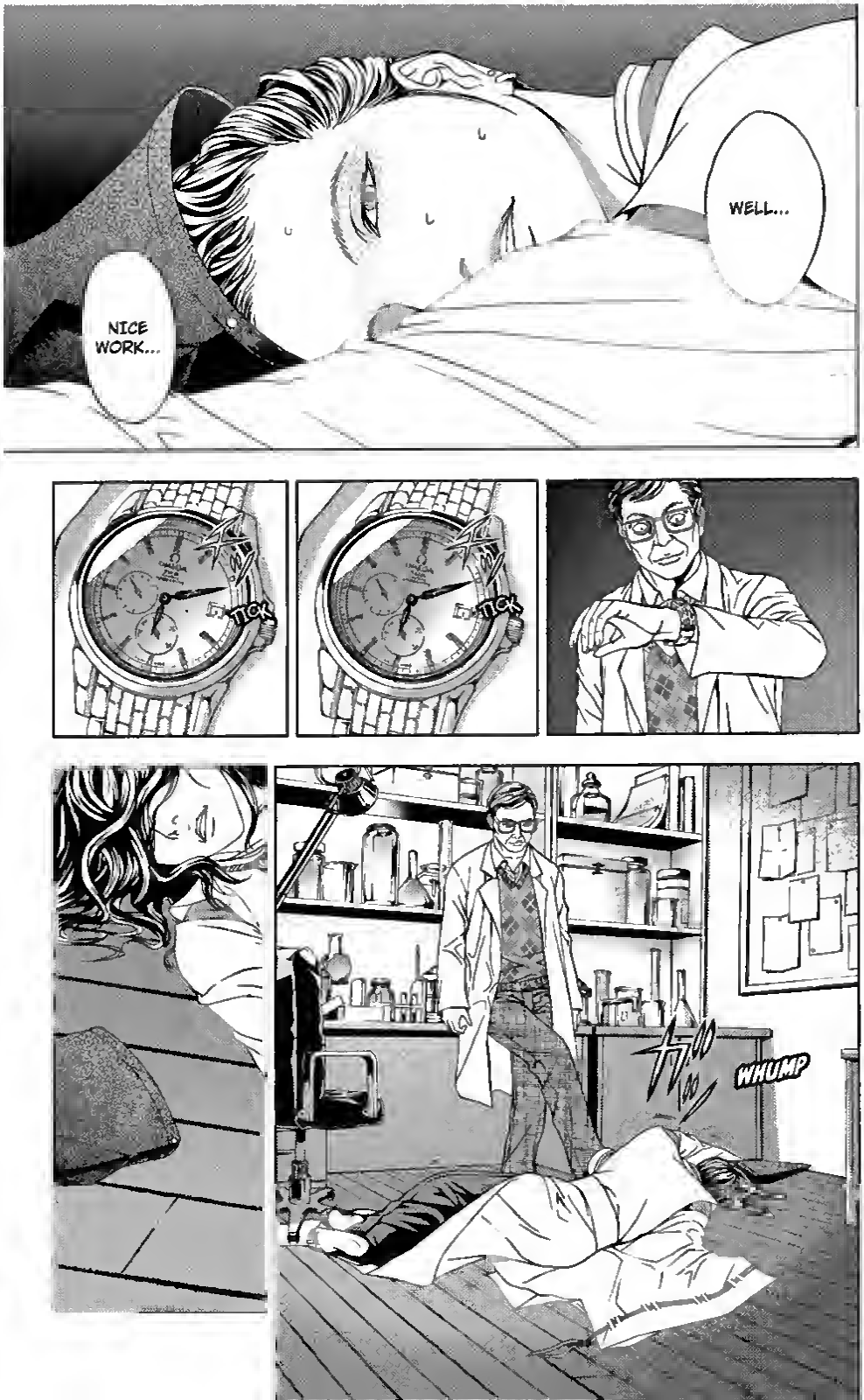
HOW DID YOU... MAKE SUCH A DRUG...?

WELL, THE NEXT TIME YOU WAKE WILL BE IN THE MIDDLE OF YOUR DISSECTION!
PLANT


HOW MANY YEARS DO YOU THINK I'VE BEEN MIXING DRUGS TO COMBAT THE LAUGHING FACE? I'VE EVEN BOUGHT UP SHADY GRIMOIRES FROM SHADY ANTIQUARIAN BOOKSHOPS ALL OVER EUROPE.
IT COST ME ALL THE MONEY I HAD, TOO!

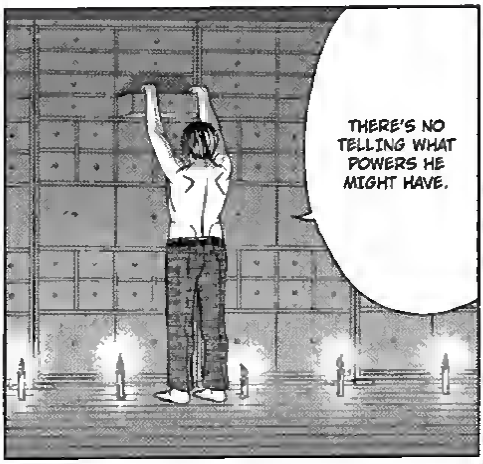
IT TOOK A WHOLE DECADE, BUT I'VE FOUND THE WEAKNESS OF MONSTERS!!

WHOCK
WHOCK
WHOCK


NICE WORK...
WELL...
TICK
TICK
WHUMP

NOT EVEN A TWITCH. BEHOLD WHAT A DECADE'S WORTH OF RESEARCH CAN YIELD...

BOPH


THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT POWERS HE MIGHT HAVE.

I'M DEALING WITH A MONSTER.

I'D BETTER MAKE SURE HE CAN'T GET AWAY.

NOW, LET THE DISSECTION COMMENCE!!
UHYAH HYAH HYAH HYAH HYAH!!

BEEP!
VRRRM
BOLT
AM I...
AM I...

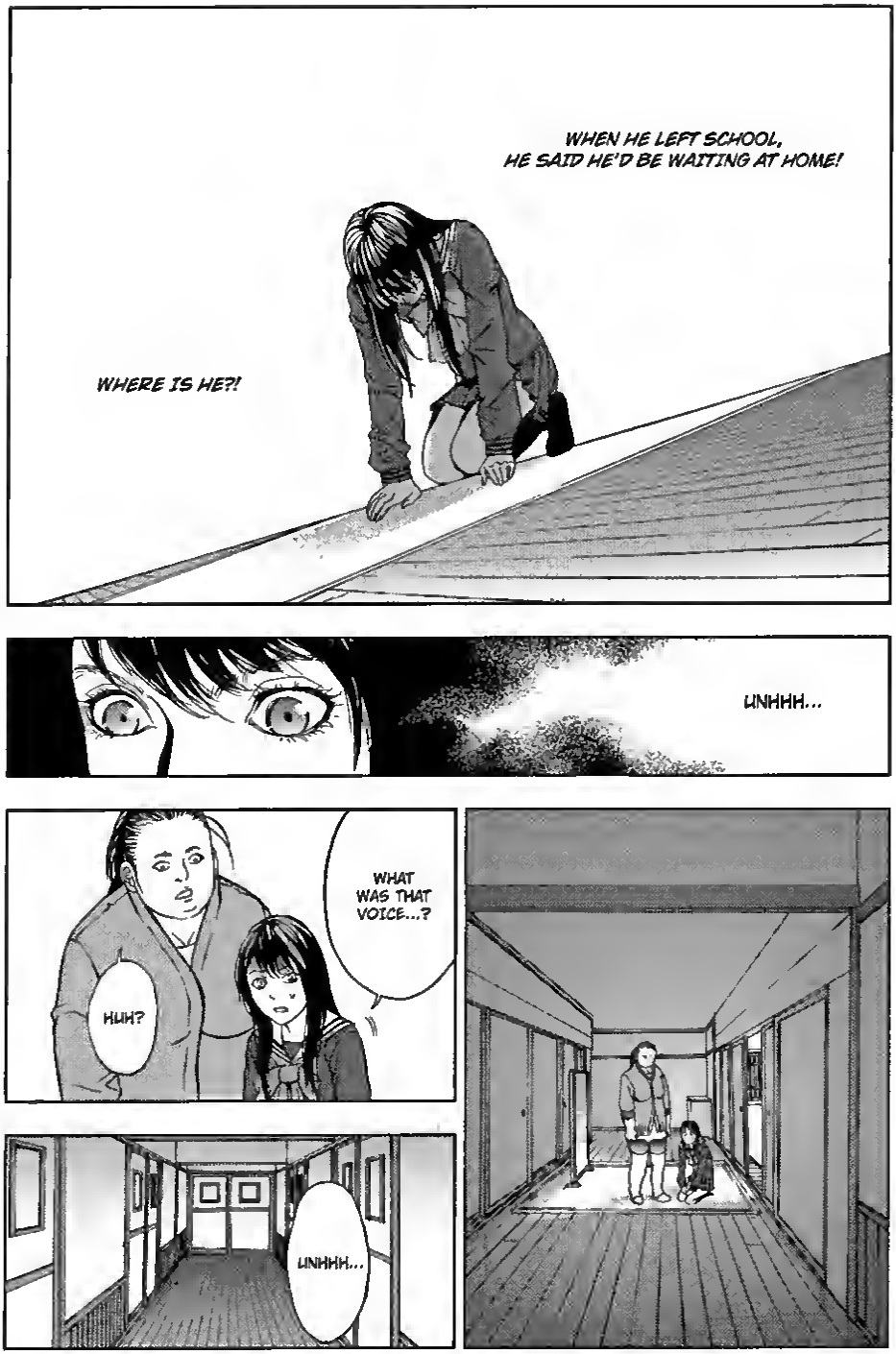
CURSED, AFTER ALL?!
WILL I NEVER GET AWAY FROM THE LAUGHING FACE?!
I THOUGHT WE BEAT IT. DIDN'T WE?!

GATA
DAD!!

TNK
TNK
TNK

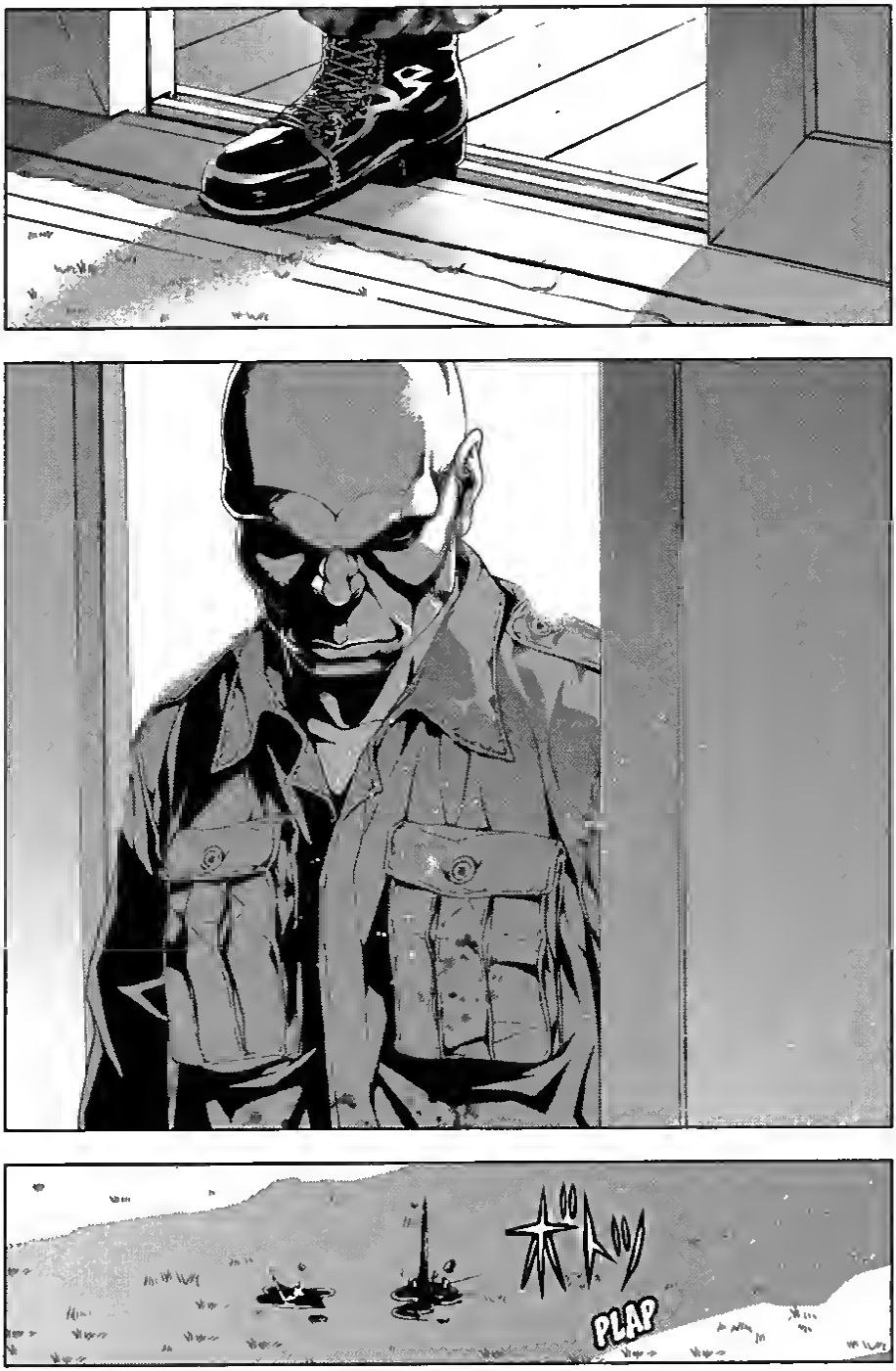
DAD!!
DAD!!
AKAMUSHI!!

KAZUE!! WHERE'S AKAMUSHI?!
WHAT'S THE MATTER?!
I DON'T KNOW .. I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE THEN.
THAT HANDSOME GUY?!
WHERE IS HE?!
SLUMP


WHEN HE LEFT SCHOOL, HE SAID HE'D BE WAITING AT HOME!
WHERE IS HE?!
UNHHH...
WHAT WAS THAT VOICE...?
HUH?
UNHHH...

SOMEBODY'S SUFFERING!
MOM?! NO! IT'S A MAN'S VOICE!
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT...
IT SOUNDS LIKE SOMEBODY'S IN LOTS OF PAIN...
UNHH...
UNHHH...
THEN IS IT GRANDDAD?! DAD?! NO, IT'S NOT...!

IT COULDN'T BE--
MOVE
AKAMUSHI?!
GLATA


PLAP

MR. TAMAKI... WHAT'S WITH THAT AXE...?
MR. TAMAKI... ARE YOU DONE GARDENING FOR TODAY?

I WAS SPLITTING FIREWOOD...
EEHEEHEEHE EHEE...

...
...

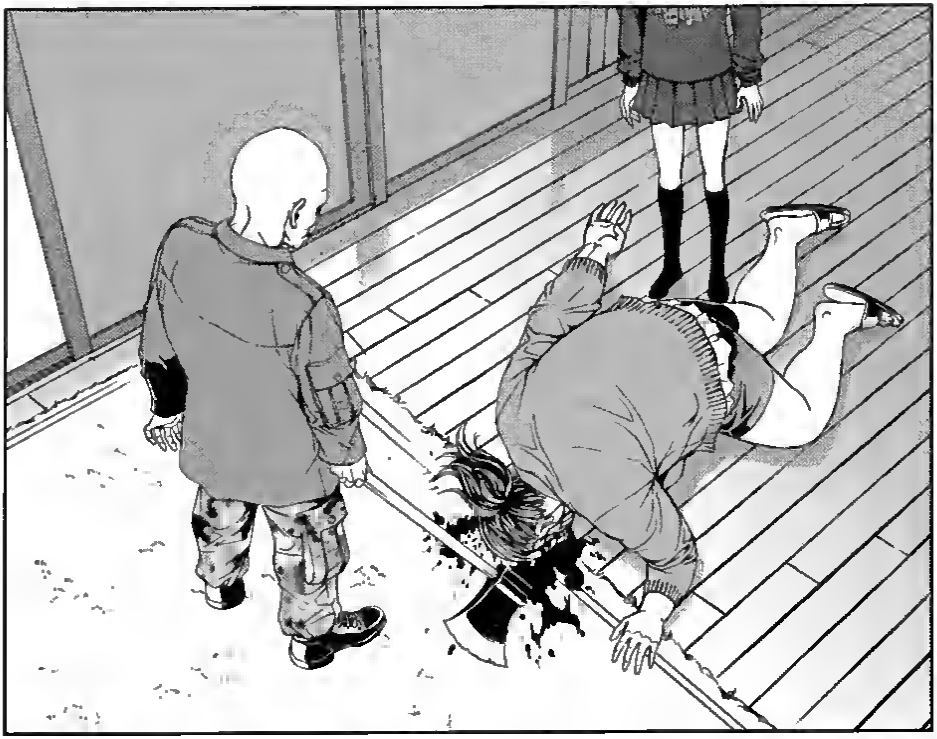
OHH...? I'M SURPRISED TO HEAR HIM MOANING.
KUROSAWA
MY, MY... HE'S SO MUCH TROUBLE.

23, GYOUANJA
二十三、暁闇蛇

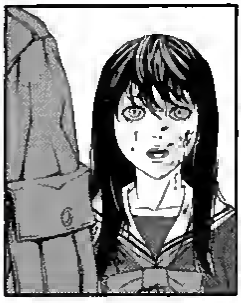
EEHEEHEEH-
EHEEHEE...
...
...
MR. TAMAKI...
WHAT'S THAT
MOANING...?
UNHHHHH...

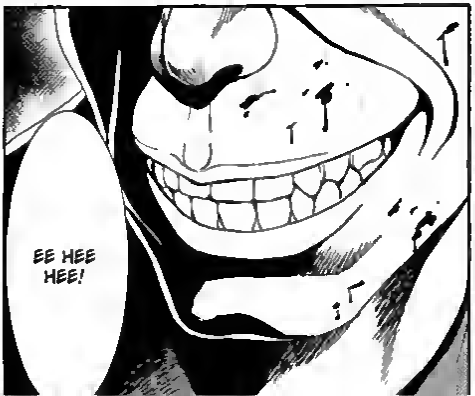
HEY, MR TAMAKI. WHAT'RE YOU LAUGHING AT? IT'S RUDE!
WHO KNOWS? NOT ME. EEHEEHEEHEE...
WHERE'S AKAMUSHI?
AKAMUSHI? WHO IS THAT?
SHUT UP!!
CHOK

0
VSHHH
AUGHHHHH!!



MISS... MIDORI...
RUN... AWAY...

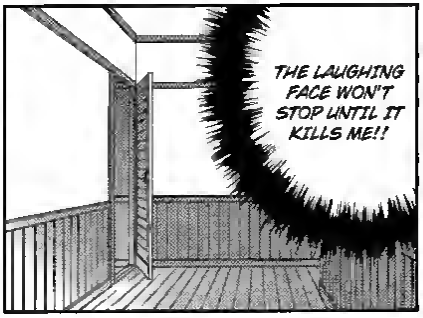



EE HEE HEE!

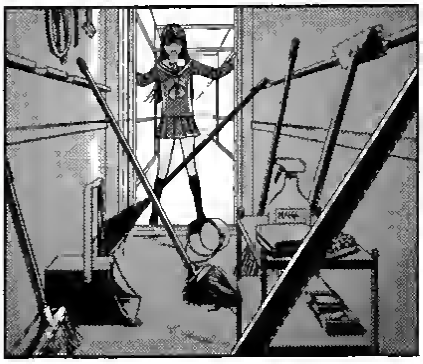
AIIEEEEE!!

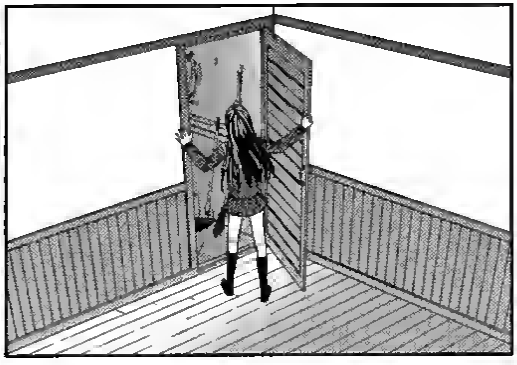
GRSH
GRSH
DIE-DIE-
DIE-DIE!!
D-D-D-D-...

KILL-
KILL-
KILL!!
K-K-K-K-
KI-KI...

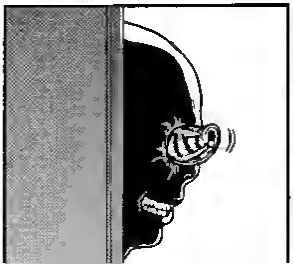

THE LAUGHING FACE WON'T STOP UNTIL IT KILLS ME!!

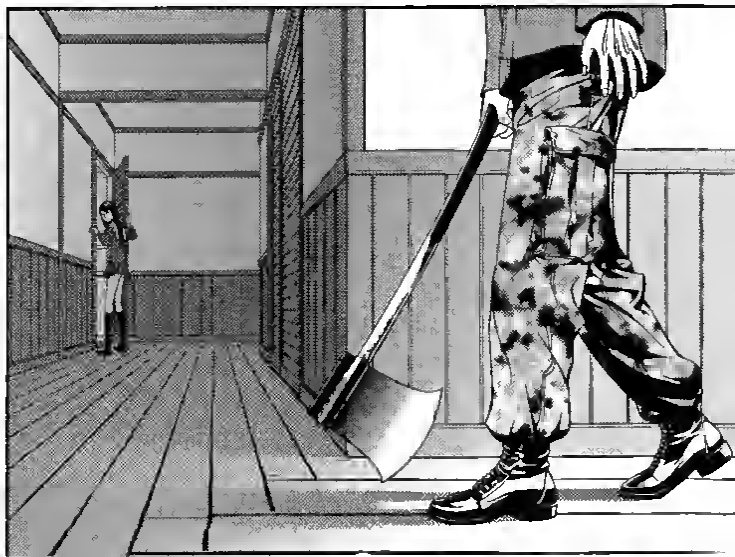
THMP
THMP

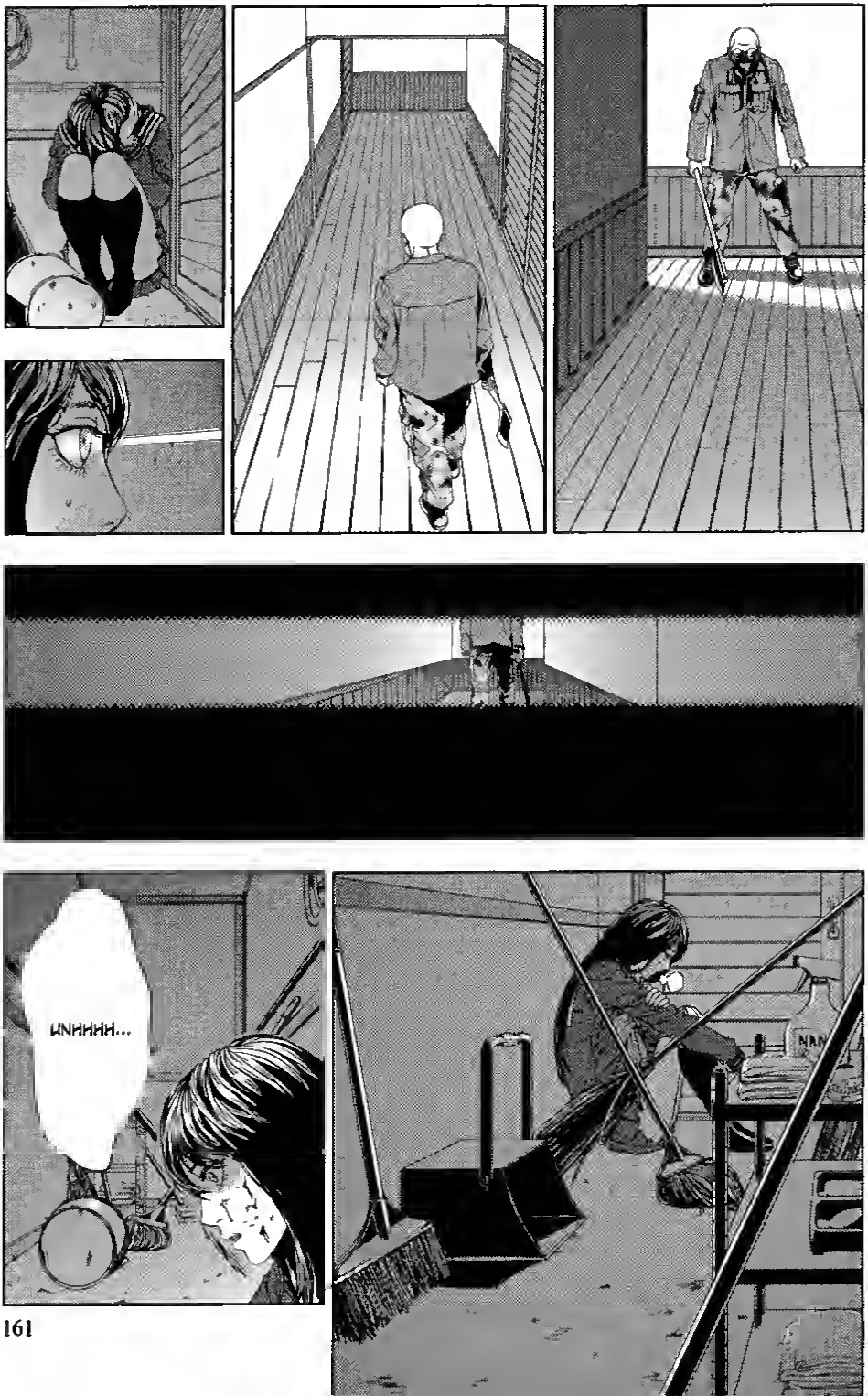




HAHH!
HAHH!
HAHH!





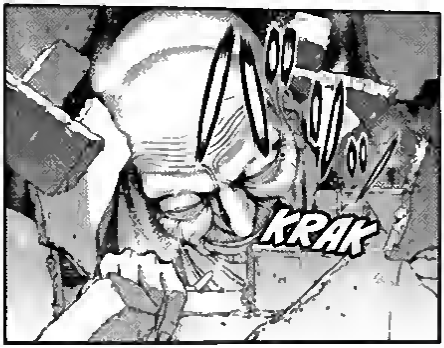

UNHHHH...

SKRCH
SKRCH
SKRCH
!!
IS THAT VOICE... AKANU-SHI'S?!
IS HE IN PAIN SOME-WHERE?!
SKRCH
SKRCH
SKRCH
KRAK
WH-WHAT IS IT NOW?!

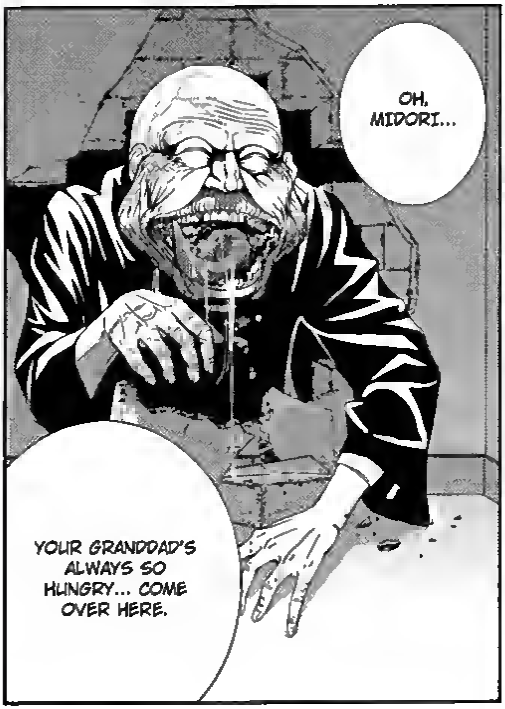
KRNCH
DID GRANDDADDY... EAT HIS WAY THROUGH A CONCRETE WALL...?!

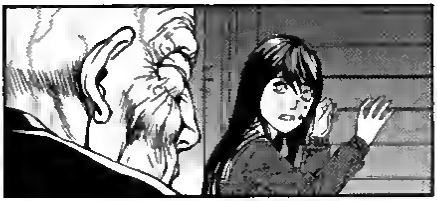
G-GRANDDADDY?!

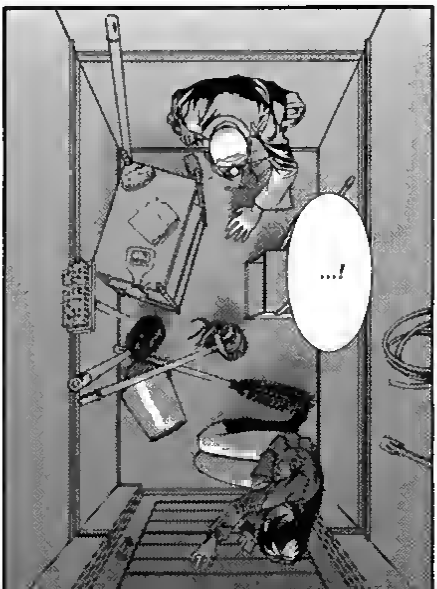
EEEK!!


KRAK

MMM, TASTY! CONCRETE'S PRETTY GOOD TOO.

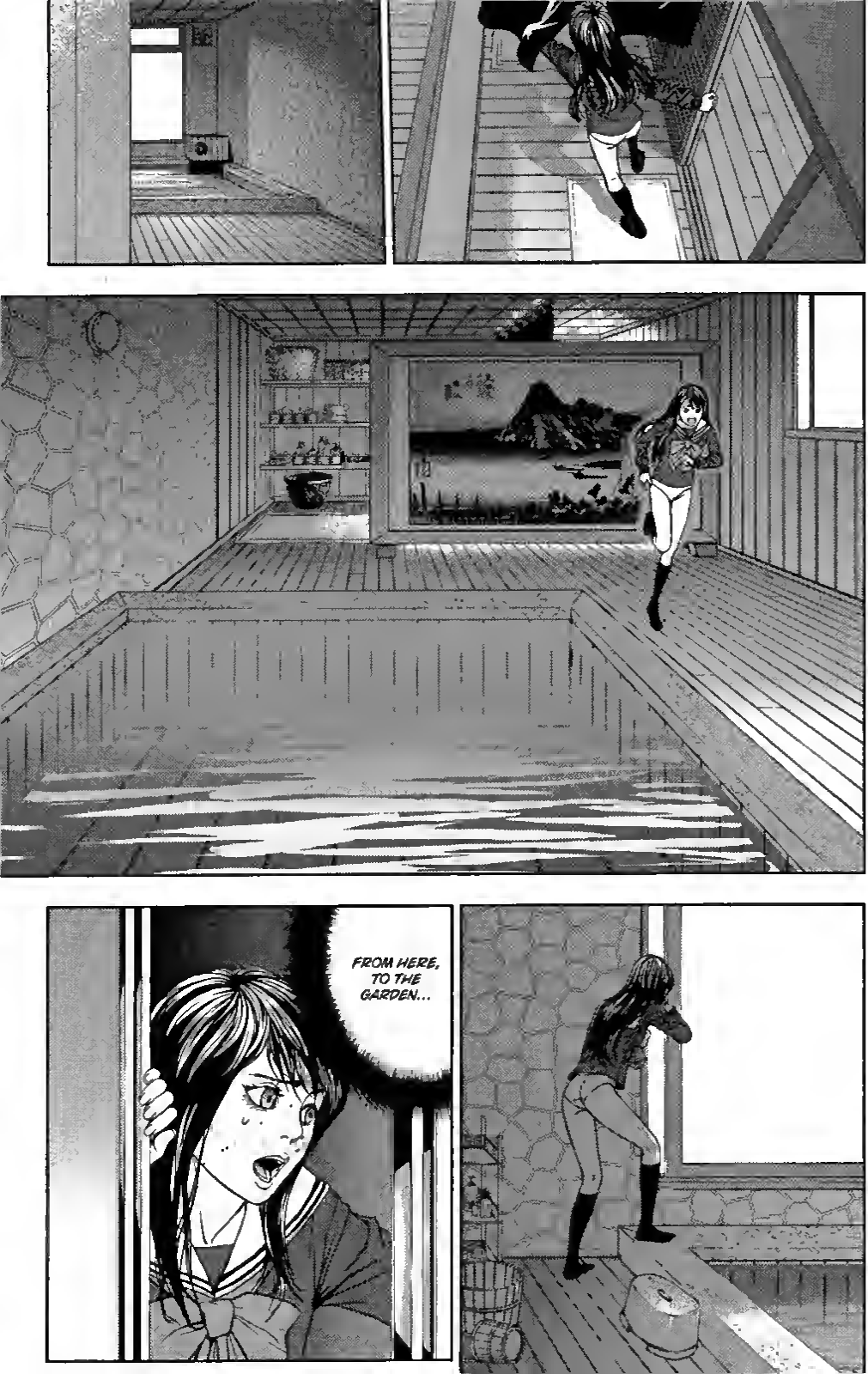

OH, MIDORI...
YOUR GRANDDAD'S ALWAYS SO HUNGRY... COME OVER HERE.




...!

SHLORP
HOLD IT, MIDORIII!!
N-NO...
I DON'T... TASTE GOOD!!
HYAH!
SHRIP

KRNCH
KRNCH
I'VE GOT TO GET AWAY... BUT WHERE ...?!
I'M STILL HUNGRY.

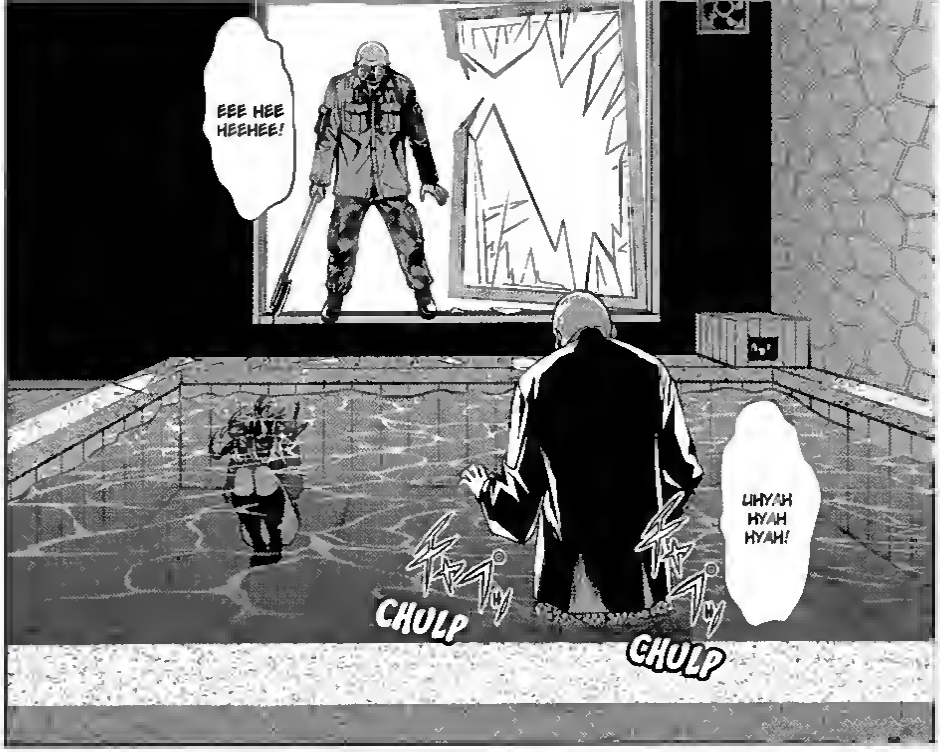

FROM HERE, TO THE GARDEN...

WAHHHH!!
BLOOSH

BWAH!
KRESH
EEEEK!
MIDORIII.

SPLOSSH

EEHEEHEE-
HEEHEE!


EEE HEE HEEHEE!
CHULP
CHULP
UHYAH HYAH HYAH!

I'LL BE KILLED WITH AN AXE!!
I'M GOING TO BE EATEN!!

AKAMUSHI?!

YOU MIGHT BE MY BRIDE, GIRL, BUT YOU'RE A MESS.

PUHAH!
AKAMUSHI!!

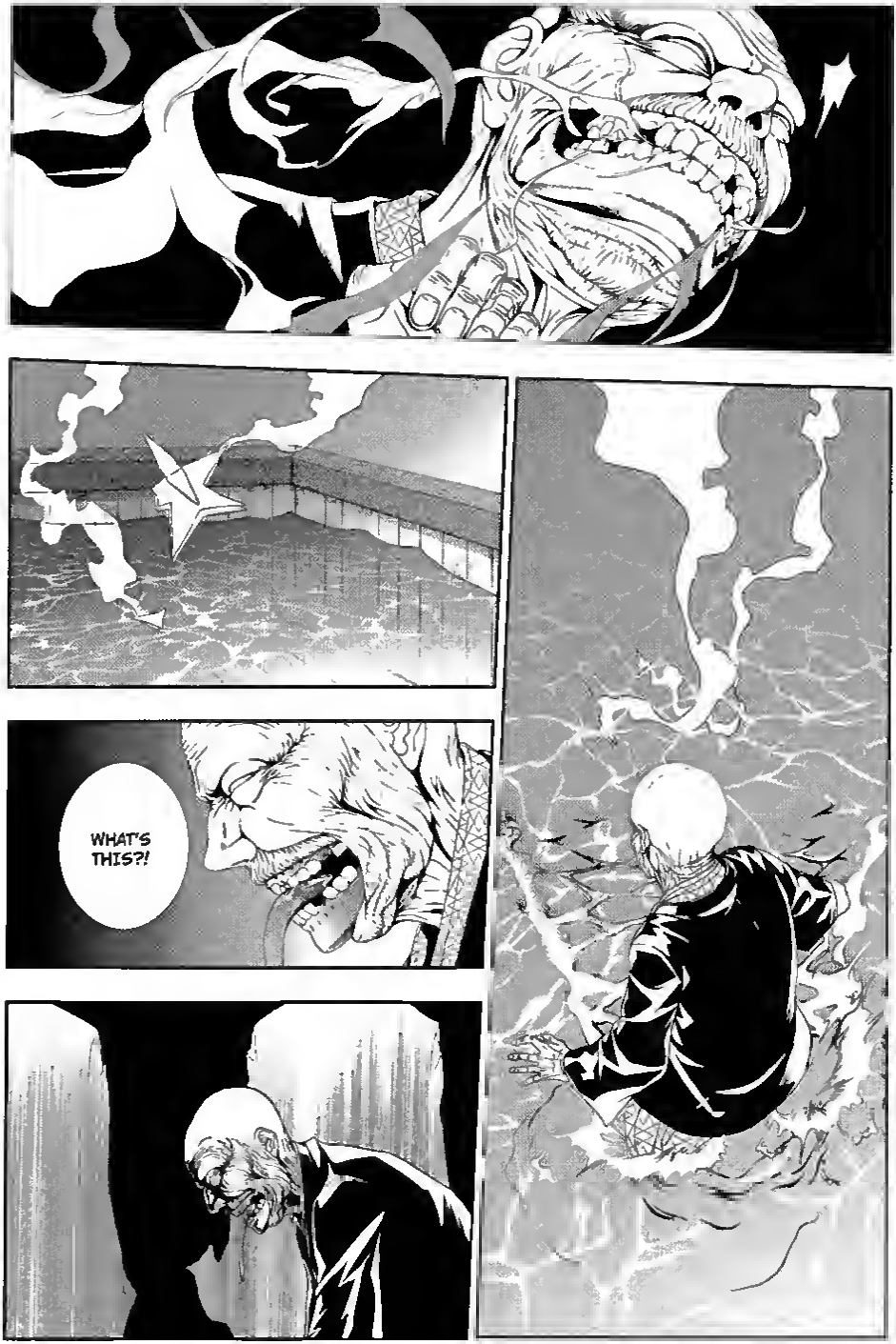
NOW I'M GOING TO MAKE YOU PAY FOR THE RUDENESS YOU DISPLAYED TOWARD MY BRIDE.

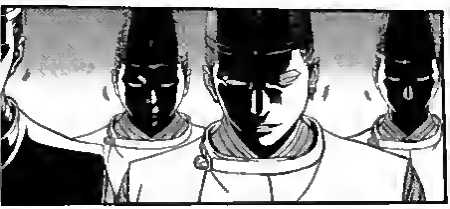
SHOM
EEEE HEE HEEE!!

SHWOP
?!
FWIP

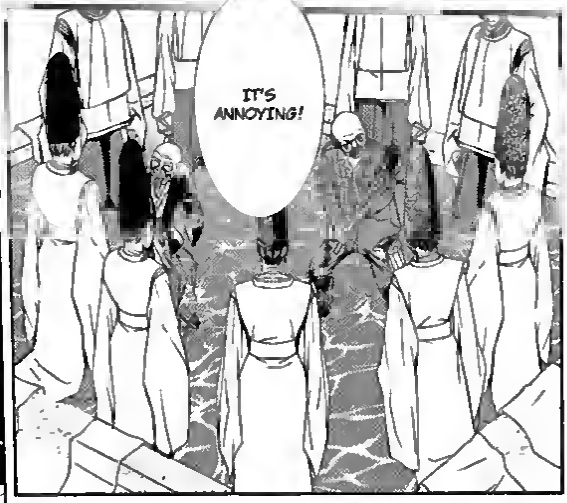
PLOOSH
MIDORIII...
IS THAT A PAPER DOLL?!
FLASH

WHAT A LOVELY MAN... AND ROBUST...
THOSE TWO ARMS... PECTORALS...
I'M SURE THEY'RE MORE THAN WORTH EATING!!
CHOMP


WHAT'S THIS?!

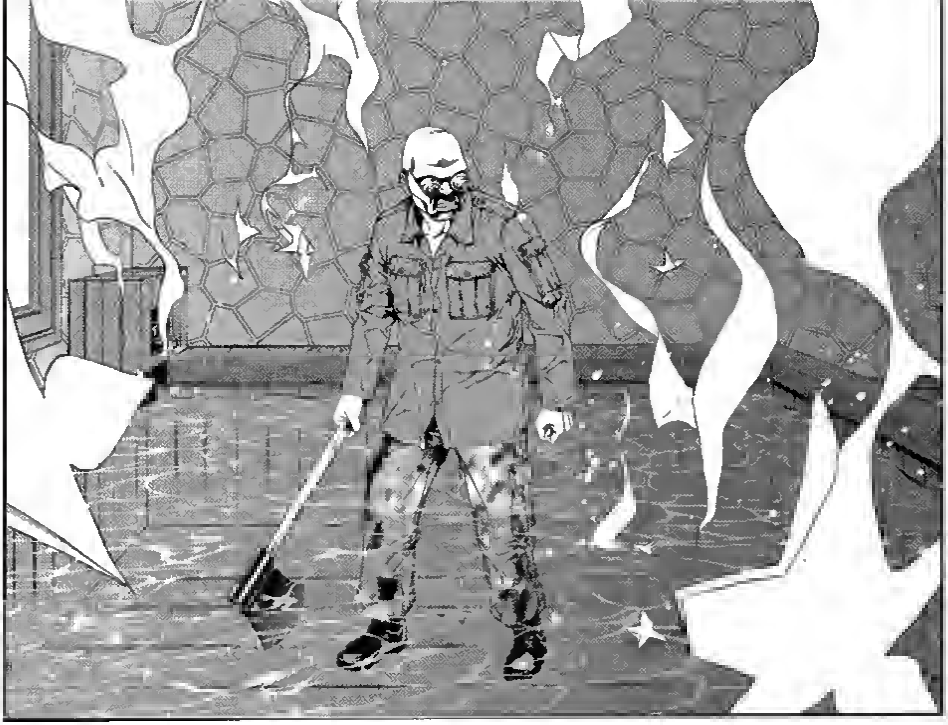


D-DAMN IT!!

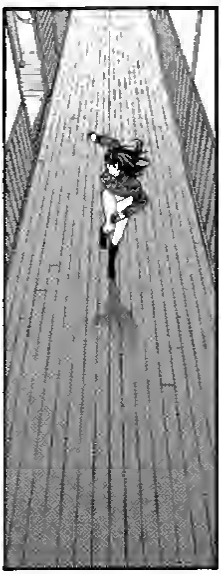

IT'S ANNOYING!

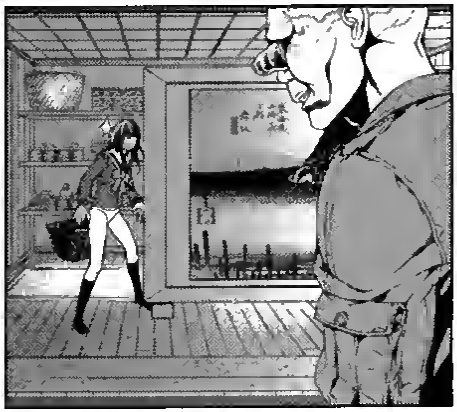
VNN
VNN
VONK
EEHEE!

MASTER...
CHOOM



AH!
THMP



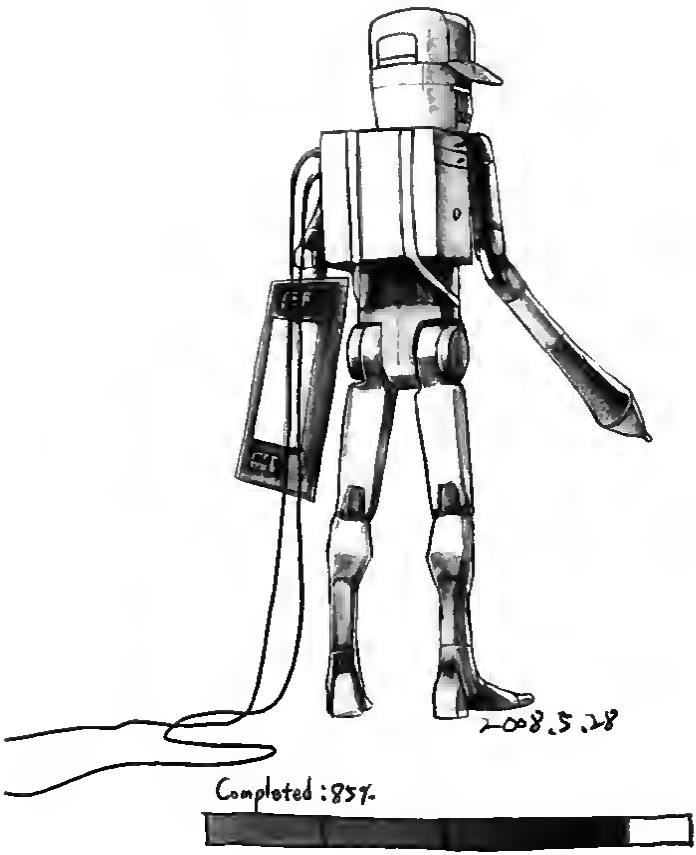


EEHEE!

GRAB
HEE-HEEH-EE!
NO!
BWOOF
WHO?!
SHFF

THIS OLD LADY ISN'T REALLY HUMAN!
BUT...I'M POSITIVE SHE'S ON MY SIDE!!
MY NAME IS GYOUANJA! I'M WITH AKAMUSHI.
HOW MUCH WOULD YOU PAY ME TO HELP YOU? ...OR THAT'S WHAT I'D LIKE TO ASK.
BUT I CAN'T TAKE MONEY FROM A CHILD...

TO BE CONTINUED IN
TAIMASHIN: THE RED SPIDER EXORCIST 5




ILLUSTRATED BY YONG-GWAN SHIN

YONG-GWAN SHIN, TURNED INTO A ROBOT?!

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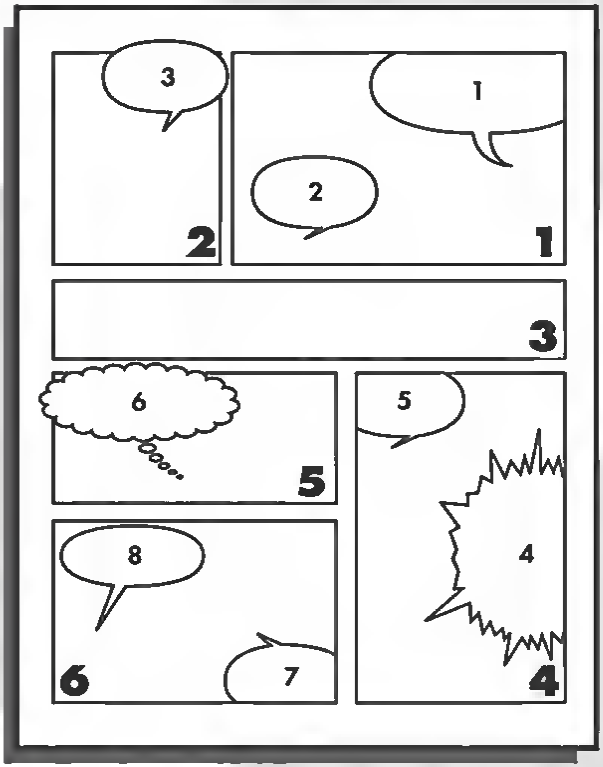


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*Follow the diagram to see how its done.*
***Surf's Up!***

# TAIMASHIN 4
## The Red Spider Exorcist

Believing the immediate threat from Laughing Face is over, Midori returns to school and faces her more mundane opponents. Akamushi doesn't take well to his bride being bullied and steps in, but the real terror comes from unexpected quarters for the pair in separate incidents. Was their love doomed from the start and is Midori fated to never find peace and happiness?

ACTION | HORROR | SUPERNATURAL

Young Adults 16+

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